

Draft Environmental Assessment

City of New Orleans:
NOPD Stables and Canine Unit
Orleans Parish
FEMA-1603-DR-LA

New Orleans, Louisiana
November 2012

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VI
Louisiana Recovery Office
New Orleans, Louisiana 70114



FEMA

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABFE	Advisory Base Flood Elevation
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
APE	Area of Potential Effects
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CAA	Clean Air Act
CBRA	Coastal Barrier Resources Act
CBRS	Coastal Barrier Resources System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CNO	City of New Orleans
CUP	Coastal Use Permits
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DFIRM	Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EO	Executive Order
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EDMS	Electronic Document Management System
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
HEAG	Highest Existing Adjacent Grade
HSDRRS	Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System
LA GOHSEP	Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
LADOTD	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
LDEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
LDNR	Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
LPDES	Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
NOPD	New Orleans Police Department
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OCM	Office of Coastal Management
PA	Public Assistance Grant Program
PW	Project Worksheet
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RHA	Rivers and Harbors Act
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Area
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office/Officer
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act

US	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Authority

Hurricane Katrina made landfall on August 29, 2005 near the town of Buras, Louisiana with sustained winds of more than 125 mph. President George W. Bush declared a major disaster for the State of Louisiana (FEMA-1603-DR-LA) on August 29, 2005, authorizing the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide Federal assistance in designated areas of Louisiana. This is pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. Section 406 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program (PA) to assist in funding the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of public facilities damaged as a result of the declared disaster.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500 to 1508), and FEMA's regulations implementing NEPA (44 CFR Parts 9 and 10).

The purpose of this EA is to analyze potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. FEMA will use the findings in this EA to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

1.2 Background

High winds, flooding and storm surge from Hurricane Katrina destroyed or severely damaged seven (7) of nine (9) structures owned by the City of New Orleans (CNO) and operated by the New Orleans Police Department's (NOPD) Mounted Division and Canine Unit. All nine (9) structures are located within City Park at Harrison Avenue and Marconi Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana, Orleans Parish (Figure 1). The geographic coordinates of the general area of the damaged structures are: Latitude 30.004630, Longitude -90.097093.

The Applicant submitted an application for FEMA funding under FEMA's Public Assistance Program being administered in response to FEMA-1603-DR-LA. Seven (7) of the nine (9) damaged NOPD structures were deemed eligible by FEMA for federal disaster public assistance for replacement as part of a non-critical facility serving the needs of the general public; the other two (2) structures suffered damages that are eligible for repair to pre-disaster condition.

Appropriations were made by the Applicant (CNO) and by FEMA for the temporary establishment of canine kennels, horse stables and mobile administrative buildings. A temporary stable building is being constructed on site to maintain the necessary functions of the NOPD Mounted Division and Canine Units throughout the permanent facility construction process (Figure 2). Although the temporary stable building is being funded under a separate Project Worksheet (PW) number (PW 19746), it is included with this EA as a connected action since all of the changes happening within the property are interconnected and will occur concurrently.



Figure 1 – Proposed Project Vicinity (Google Earth, 2012)

2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

The Canine Unit and Mounted Division Stables are integral parts of the New Orleans Police Department's (NOPD) crime fighting and crowd management activities, respectively. The unique abilities of these animal-based units are critical in the apprehension of criminal suspects, locating drugs and explosives, protecting the lives of officers and creating a visible police presence. With the City of New Orleans being a global tourist destination these animal units are a critical component to the efficacy of the NOPD's furtherance of its public safety mission.

The damaged facilities provided NOPD with kennels, stables, training areas, and medical and administrative space to carry out the shelter, sustenance and treatment duties necessary for Canine Unit and Mounted Division activities, and to conduct necessary training and meetings. NOPD needs to restore the lost functions and capacity of care, training, storage, and administrative space for continuance and support of the Canine Unit and Mounted Division programs. By consolidating and housing the functions previously served by the seven (7) severely damaged structures into a minimal number of new structures (2), CNO hopes to increase practicality and functionality which in turn will lower future operating costs.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES

The NEPA process consists of an evaluation of the environmental effects of a federal undertaking, including its alternatives. This section describes alternatives proposed and considered in addressing the purpose and needs stated in Section 2.0 above. Three alternatives were evaluated: 1) No Action; 2) Demolish and Rebuild the seven (7) damaged structures to their pre-disaster functions and capacity within the existing footprint; and 3) Demolish, Consolidate and Reconstruct the seven (7) damaged buildings into two (2) newly configured structures at alternate locations within the same general project area (Figures 2 and 3) (Proposed Action).

3.1 Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no repair, reconstruction, or relocation of the City Park NOPD Canine Division command offices and animal training and support structures. These structures would remain in their current unusable state, and would be unavailable for the care, training and support of NOPD canine and mounted unit personnel and animals and use by the NOPD in furtherance of a critical aspect of its public safety mission, function and role. This alternative does not meet the purpose and need; however, it will be evaluated further throughout this EA.

3.2 Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

Under this alternative, the seven (7) damaged structures would be demolished and rebuilt to their pre-disaster configuration and function, and in substantially the same footprint. This alternative meets the purpose and need of the action and will be further evaluated throughout this EA.

3.3 Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

Applicant proposes to demolish the seven damaged structures, consisting of a captain's office, canine storage shed, grounds storage shed, tack house, open stable building, canine office, and second canine shed. The two (2) remaining damaged structures (a stable building and metal storage shed) will be repaired back to their original pre-disaster condition. The general functions and capacity previously provided by each of the seven (7) structures proposed for demolition will be incorporated into a new elevated office building and new canine kennel building, with two (2) new asphalt driveways connecting to Harrison Avenue (Figures 2 and 3). One of the proposed driveways will be laid over existing gravel. A second asphalt driveway will be constructed nearby on new ground and arranged in such a way as to avoid the removal of any large trees. An existing equine arena will be reduced in size in order to incorporate the proposed new elevated office building into the new layout (Figures 2 and 3). A temporary stable building is being constructed on site to maintain the necessary functions of the NOPD Mounted Division and Canine Units throughout the permanent facility construction process. This alternative also meets the purpose and need of the action and will be further evaluated throughout this EA.

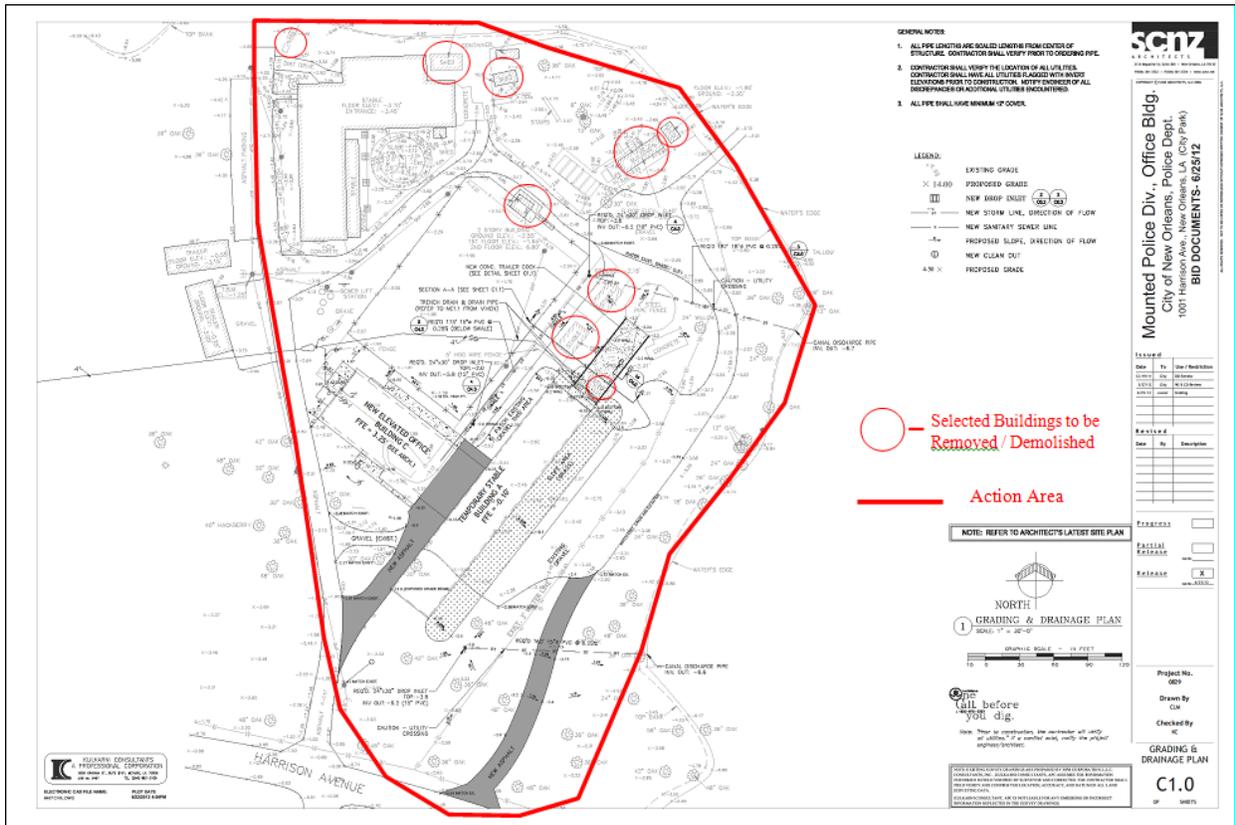


Figure 2 – Proposed Demolition/Construction Schematic



Figure 3 – Proposed Project Footprints

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

4.1 Water Resources

4.1.1 Regulatory Setting

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, pursuant to §§ 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Section 402 of the CWA, entitled, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), authorizes and sets forth standards for state administered permitting programs regulating the discharge of pollutants into navigable waters within the state's jurisdiction. Wetlands are identified as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. The USACE also regulates the building of structures in waters of the U.S. pursuant to §§ 9 and 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA). Executive Order (EO) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, directs Federal agencies to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the values of wetlands for federally funded projects. FEMA regulations for complying with EO 11990 are found at 44 C FR, Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enforces the CWA and regulates discharges to waters of the United States through permits issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program. On August 27, 1996, Louisiana assumed the NPDES from EPA Region VI, thus becoming a state delegated to administer the NPDES Program. Having assumed NPDES responsibilities, Louisiana may directly issue NPDES permits and has primary enforcement responsibility for facilities in this state, with certain exceptions such as Indian Country Lands. Louisiana administers the NPDES Program and surface water discharge permitting system under the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) program. LPDES requires permits for the discharge of pollutants/wastewater from any point source into waters of the state. The term "point source" is defined as "any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance such as a pipe or a ditch." Prior to assumption of the program, permittees were required to hold both a valid state and federal permit. Now, all point source discharges of pollutants to waters of the state of Louisiana are required to hold an LPDES permit issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ).

4.1.2 Existing Conditions

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map provided by the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) shows no wetlands within the proposed project area that could be adversely affected by the project (Figure 4, USFWS National Wetlands Inventory 2012).

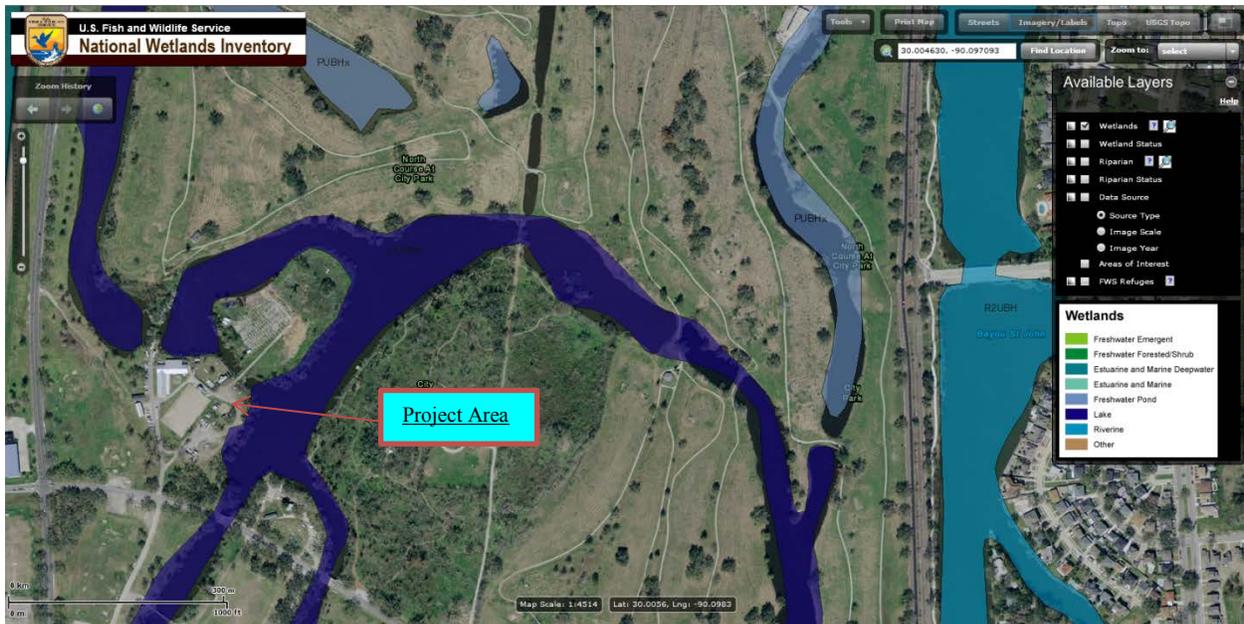


Figure 4 - U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory Map (USFWS, 2012)

The proposed project site is, however, surrounded by water to the north, east and southeast, including wetlands and other waters of the United States under the jurisdiction of the USACE. A visit to the proposed site on June 3, 2012 identified at least one defined drainage ditch, located within the northwest boundary area of the proposed project site, and confirmed that the proposed project site is surrounded by lagoons and other water to the north, east and southeast boundaries. Storm water runoff is estimated to flow into the northwest drainage ditch, into the lagoons/ponds adjacent to the proposed project site's north, east and southeast boundaries, and into Bayou St. John which runs along the eastern property line (Figure 4). From here, the water flows north to Lake Ponchartrain.

4.1.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no project related impacts to waters of the United States or Wetlands.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

Demolition and reconstruction of the damaged buildings in the same footprint would not significantly impact surface water resources. During demolition and construction, there would be the potential to impact surface waters through minor erosion and runoff, and or through accidental spills of fluids used in construction equipment. Excavating and trenching would be required for utility upgrades to code. Storm water runoff could carry sediment offsite into the receiving ditches along with the adjacent lagoons and bayous.

In order to minimize impacts to nearby waters of the United States, the contractor should implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) that meet the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's (LDEQ) permitting specifications for storm water discharge regulated

under §§ 401 and 402 of the CWA. This includes designing the site with specific construction measures to reduce or eliminate run-off impacts. Sound building techniques would eliminate any minor potential problems that might otherwise result from runoff during construction. To minimize spills and leaks of hazardous materials from the maintenance of construction equipment, safe handling procedures of these materials per local, state and federal regulations would be used to reduce impacts to surface and groundwater resources.

Any adverse effects to water quality associated with the construction of the projects would be short term and can be minimized by the BMP and sound building measures described above.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

Consolidation of structures within an area having existing utilities and infrastructure in place and no identifiable surface waters would not significantly impact surface water resources, and is not likely to result in increased soil erosion and subsequent increase of sediment turbidity in the receiving ditch and adjacent waters due to storm water runoff.

Long-term impacts could result from the conversion of a portion of the site of the new elevated office building from natural surface to impermeable surface, lowering the opportunity for groundwater recharge, and due to some landscape slope modifications in the proposed project area (Figure 2). During construction there would be the potential to impact surface waters through minor erosion and runoff. Excavating and trenching would be required for utility upgrades, a new sanitary sewer line connection, a new water line connection to an existing water line (approximately 2 feet deep), a force main trench (approximately 3.5 feet deep), and two new storm sewer discharge lines/pipes. Fill is to be brought in for construction of the new elevated office building and configuration of the driveways. Storm water runoff could carry sediment offsite into the receiving ditch, lagoons and bayous. A ccidental spills of fluids used in construction equipment could potentially affect water resources.

FEMA has determined the proposed location is an urban, previously disturbed site, and is not a wetland under Executive Order 11990. To minimize impacts to the nearby waters of the United States, the contractor should implement BMPs that meet LDEQ permitting specifications for storm water discharge regulated under §§ 401 and 402 of the CWA. This includes designing the site with specific construction measures to reduce or eliminate run-off impacts. Sound building techniques would eliminate any minor potential problems that might otherwise result from runoff during construction. To minimize spills and leaks of hazardous materials from the maintenance of construction equipment, safe handling procedures of these materials per local, state and federal regulations should be used to reduce impacts to surface and groundwater resources.

Any adverse effects to water quality associated with the construction of the projects would be short term and can be minimized by the BMP and sound building measures described above. Assuming that these mitigation measures are adhered to, impacts to local water quality are expected to be minor, localized and short-term in duration.

In consultation dated August 8, 2012, the EPA advised that it has no objections to the project as proposed relevant to the applicable CWA Guidelines (Appendix A, Agency Correspondence).

4.2 Floodplains

4.2.1 Regulatory Setting

Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) requires Federal agencies to avoid direct or indirect support or development within the 100-year floodplain whenever there is a practicable alternative. FEMA's regulations for complying with EO 11988 are found at 44 CFR Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

4.2.2 Existing Conditions

In July 2005, FEMA initiated a series of flood insurance studies for many of the Louisiana coastal parishes as part of the Flood Map Modernization effort through FEMA's National Flood Insurance Fund. These studies were necessary because the flood hazard and risk information shown on many Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) was developed during the 1970s, and the physical terrain had changed significantly, such as major loss of wetland areas. After hurricanes Katrina and Rita, FEMA expanded the scope of work to include all of coastal Louisiana. The magnitude of the impacts of hurricanes Katrina and Rita reinforced the urgency to obtain additional flood recovery data for the coastal zones of Louisiana. More detailed analysis was possible because new data obtained after the hurricanes included information on levees and levee systems, new high-water marks, and new hurricane parameters (LaMP 2007).

During an initial post-hurricane analysis, FEMA determined that the "100-Year" or 1-percent chance storm flood elevations on FIRMs for many Louisiana communities, referred to as Base Flood Elevations (BFEs), were too low. FEMA created recovery maps showing the extent and magnitude of hurricanes Katrina's and Rita's surge, as well as information on other storms over the past 25 years (Lamp 2007). The 2006 advisory flood data shown on the recovery maps for the Louisiana-declared disaster areas show high-water marks surveyed after the storm; flood limits developed from these surveyed points; and Advisory Base Flood Elevations, or ABFEs. The recovery maps and other advisory data were developed to assist parish officials, homeowners, business owners, and other affected citizens with their recovery and rebuilding efforts (LaMP 2007).

Updated preliminary flood hazard maps from an intensive five-year mapping project guided by FEMA are now provided to all Louisiana coastal parishes. The new maps released in early 2008, were known as Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs). The DFIRMs provided communities with a more scientific approach to economic development, hazard mitigation planning, emergency response and post-flood recovery (LaMP 2007).

The USACE is currently working on a Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) for the Greater New Orleans (GNO) area (Miller 2011). This 350-mile system of levees, floodwalls, surge barriers, and pump stations will reduce the flood risk associated with a storm event. In September of 2011, the USACE provided FEMA with assurances that the HSDRRS is capable of defending against a storm surge with a one percent (1%) annual chance event of occurring in any given year (Miller 2011). The areas protected include portions of St. Bernard, St. Charles, Jefferson, Orleans, and Plaquemines parishes. (Miller 2011). On November 9, 2012, FEMA released revised preliminary DFIRMs for Orleans Parish. The flood

risk depicted on the revised preliminary DFIRM maps incorporate the HSDRRS improvements completed by the USACE and constructed local drainage system improvements that assist in the conveyance of flood water within your community. The updated flood risk information provided through the preliminary DFIRMS will provide the communities, residents and business owners within Orleans Parish more precise information about the flood risk they face, allowing them to make more informed decisions to reduce their personal risk to life and property (Riskmap6 2012). FEMA must use sound engineering data and judgment to determine on a case by case or geographic basis if the 2008 Preliminary DFIRM is the appropriate best available flood risk data or if there is better data that more closely matches current flood risk levels; however, no project should be built to a floodplain management standard that is less protective than what the community has adopted in local ordinances through their participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (Miller 2011).

In compliance with FEMA policy implementing EO 11988, Floodplain Management, the proposed project was reviewed for possible impacts associated with occupancy or modification to a floodplain. Orleans Parish enrolled in the NFIP on November 3, 1070.

Per revised preliminary DFIRM panel number 22071C0115F, dated November 19, 2012, the project area is located in shaded zone X, an area protected by levees from the 100-Year flood. Per preliminary DFIRM panel number 22071C0115F, dated November 13, 2008 (Figure 5), the project area is located in AE (E1 -3), a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) subject to inundation by the 1-percent annual chance (100-year) flood; base flood elevations determined. Per Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map (ABFE Map) LA-EE30 (Figure 6), dated June 5, 2006, the site is located in ABFE EL -2.5 or 3 feet above Highest Existing Adjacent Grade (HEAG).

4.2.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The No Action Alternative would have no determinable impact to flood elevations.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

By Memorandum of August 15, 2012 from Frank Pagano, Mitigation Division Director of FEMA Region 6 to John Connolly, Senior Public Assistance Advisor, Louisiana Recovery Office (Appendix B), the 2008 Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) elevation is not required; however, the applicant must coordinate all reconstruction activities with the local floodplain manager and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances. Repair to the original configuration of the NOPD Stables and Canine Unit in substantially its same footprint will have no determinable impact on flood elevations, nor will it increase development in this fully built-out area. In compliance with EO 11988, an 8-step process was completed and documentation is attached in Appendix B.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

The proposed action alternative would involve the demolition of several damaged structures, the repair of several structures back to their original condition, and the construction of two new structures that will consolidate and incorporate the functions and capacity of the damaged structures to be demolished into a new configuration but within the same general project area. By Memorandum of August 15, 2012 from Frank Pagano, Mitigation Division Director of

FEMA Region 6 to John Connolly, Senior Public Assistance Advisor, Louisiana Recovery Office (Appendix A), the 2008 Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) elevation is not required; however, the applicant must coordinate all reconstruction activities with the local floodplain manager and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances. Demolition, repair, and consolidation of structures within the same general footprint will have no determinable impact on flood elevations, nor will it increase development in this fully built-out area. This proposed alternative would be located within the grounds of City Park and among existing residential and recreational structures. In compliance with EO 11988, an 8-step process was completed and documentation is attached in Appendix B.

New construction must be compliant with current codes and standards. Orleans Parish is required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator regarding floodplain permit(s) prior to the start of any activities. All coordination pertaining to these activities and applicant compliance with any conditions should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files. As per 44 CFR 9.11 (d) (9), mitigation or minimization standards must be applied where possible. The replacement of building contents, materials and equipment (mechanical and electrical) should be, where possible, wet or dry-proofed, elevated, or relocated to or above the BFE.

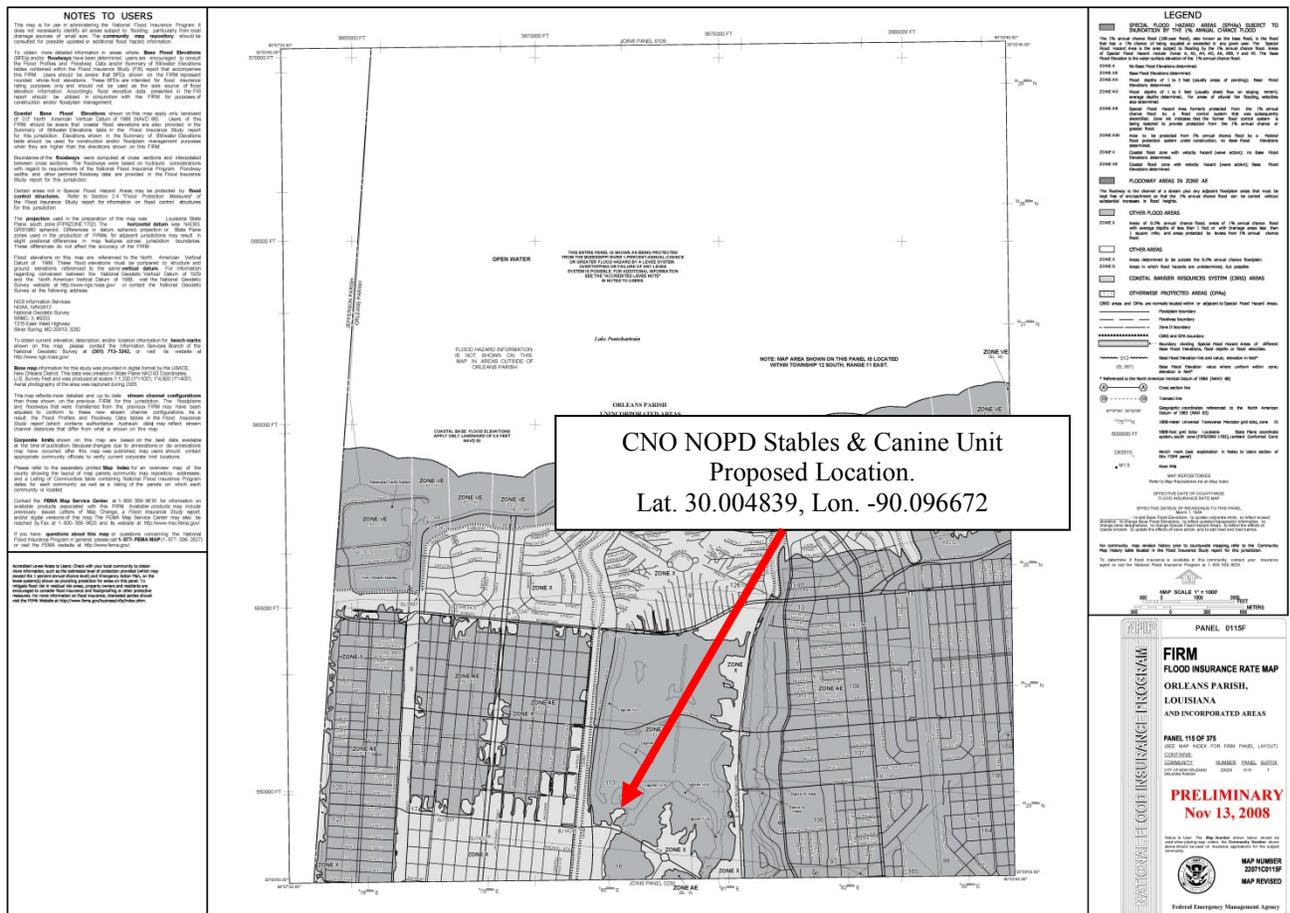


Figure 5. Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map Panel 22071C0115F (FEMA, 2008)

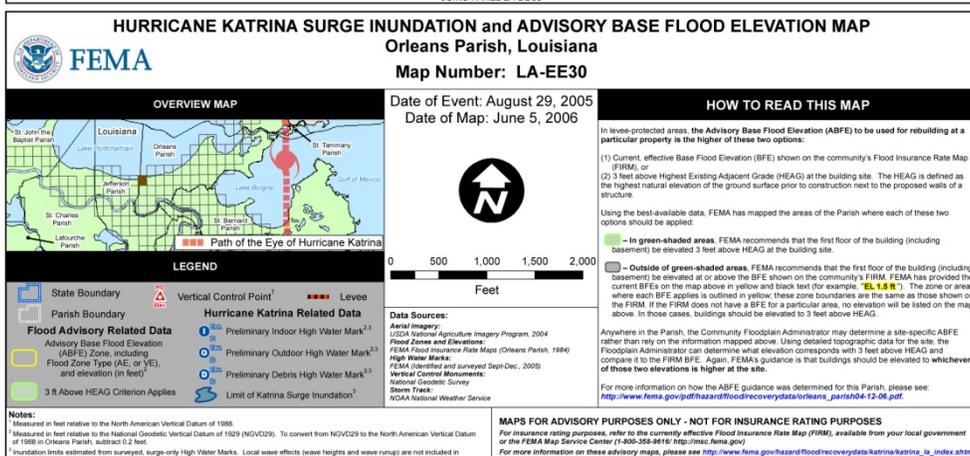
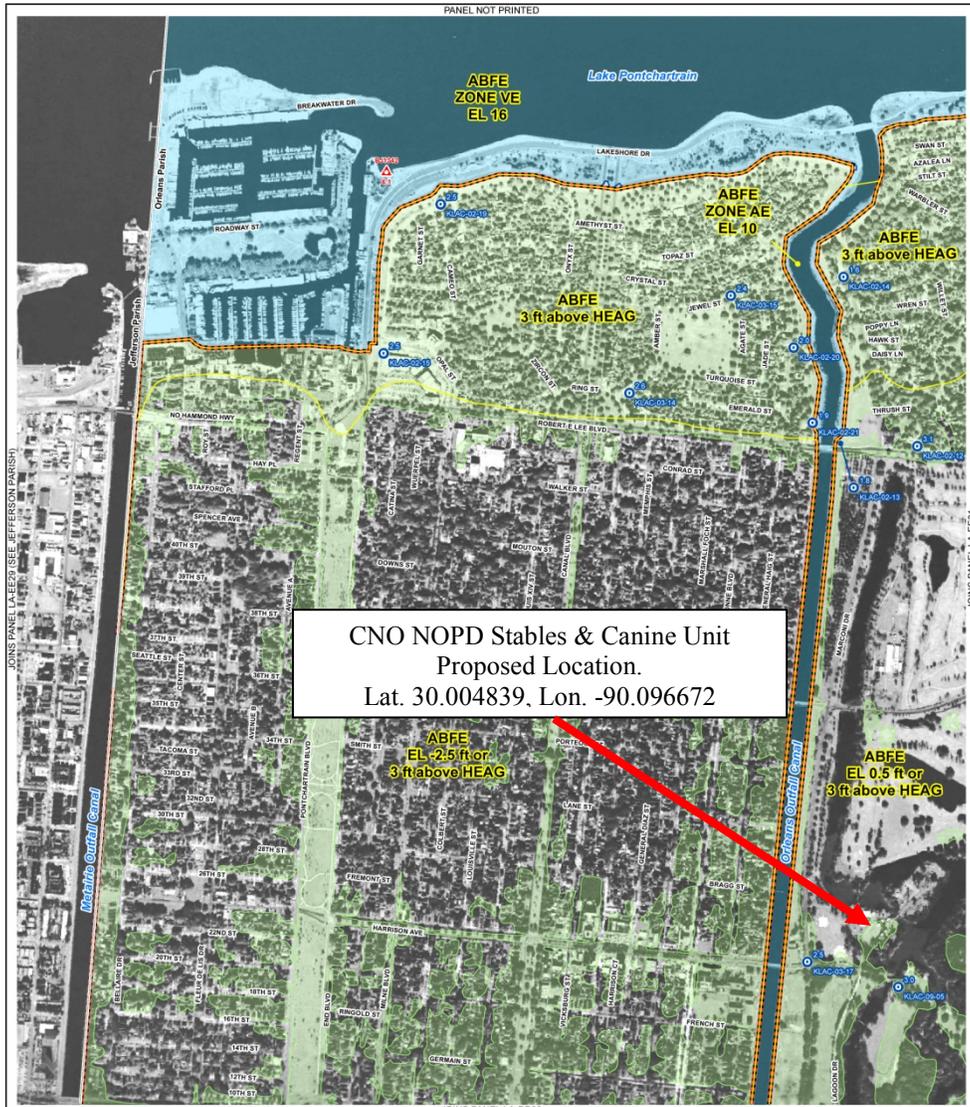


Figure 6. Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map LA-EE30 (FEMA, June 5, 2006)

4.3 Coastal Resources

4.3.1 Regulatory

The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA, or the Act) encourages the management of coastal zone areas and provides grants to be used in maintaining coastal zone areas. It requires that federal agencies be consistent in enforcing the policies of state coastal zone management programs when conducting or supporting activities that affect a coastal zone. It is intended to ensure that federal activities are consistent with state programs for the protection and, where possible, enhancement of the nation's coastal zones.

The Act's definition of a coastal zone includes coastal waters extending to the outer limit of state submerged land title and ownership, adjacent shorelines, and land extending inward to the extent necessary to control shorelines. A coastal zone includes islands, beaches, transitional and intertidal areas, and salt marshes. The CZMA requires that states develop a State Coastal Zone Management Plan or program and that any federal agency conducting or supporting activities affecting the coastal zone conduct or support those activities in a manner consistent with the approved state plan or program. On September 28, 2012, the LDNR, Office of Coastal Management, issued a letter of general consistency concurrence, "serv[ing] as formal notification that, as of October 1, 2012, the granting of any financial assistance as defined at 15 C FR §930.91, is fully consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program."

The USFWS regulates federal funding in Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS) units under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA). This Act protects undeveloped coastal barriers and related areas (*i.e.*, Otherwise Protected Areas) by prohibiting direct or indirect Federal funding of projects that support development in these areas. The Act promotes appropriate use and conservation of coastal barriers along the Gulf of Mexico.

4.3.2 Existing Conditions

The proposed project area, including the existing facility sites and proposed consolidated site locations are within the Louisiana Coastal Zone (Figure 7). The proposed project site is not located within a regulated CBRS.

Louisiana Coastal Zone
Act 588 of 2012



Figure 7 – Louisiana Coastal Zone Boundary Map

4.3.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no impacts to the Coastal Zone or to a CBRS unit; therefore, no review is required.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

Reconstruction of the seven Canine Unit and Mounted Division Stables facilities in substantially their same footprint would involve demolition and construction in a designated coastal zone. This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. In a letter dated September 28, 2012, the Louisiana Office of Coastal Management determined that the granting of financial assistance is fully consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The applicant is responsible for coordinating with and obtaining any required Coastal Use Permit(s) (CUP) or other authorizations from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) Office of Coastal Management's Permits and Mitigation Division prior to initiating work. The original site is not within a CBRS unit; therefore, it does not trigger the CBRA.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

The proposed action alternative would involve demolition and construction activities in a designated coastal zone. This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. In a letter dated September 28, 2012, the Louisiana Office of Coastal Management determined that the granting of financial assistance is fully consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The applicant is responsible for coordinating with and obtaining any required Coastal

Use Permit(s) (CUP) or other authorizations from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) Office of Coastal Management’s Permits and Mitigation Division prior to initiating work. The proposed site is not within a CBRS unit; therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative does not trigger the CBRA.

4.4 Biological Resources

4.4.1 Regulatory Setting

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 prohibits the taking of listed, threatened, and endangered species unless specifically authorized by permit from the USFWS or the National Marine Fisheries Service. “Take” is defined in ESA § 3 as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct.” Harm is further defined by the ESA regulations to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavioral patterns such as breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 affirms the United States’ commitment and implements various international treaties and conventions (with Canada, Japan, Mexico and the former Soviet Union) for the protection of migratory bird resources. Under the MBTA, it is unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, or sell birds listed in the statute as “migratory birds”. The MBTA does not discriminate between live or dead birds, and grants full protection to any bird parts including feathers, eggs, and nests. E.O. 13186 (Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds) strengthens the protection of migratory birds and their habitats by directing federal agencies to take certain actions that implement the MBTA.

4.4.2 Existing Conditions

Two mammal species, the West Indian Manatee and Louisiana Black Bear, and two fish species, the Gulf Sturgeon and Pallid Sturgeon, are federally listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as endangered (E) or threatened (T) for Orleans Parish (USFWS, 2012). Two bird species, the Brown Pelican and Sprague’s Pipit, are federally listed candidate (C) or recovery (R) status for Orleans Parish (USFWS, 2012).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Gulf sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	T (CH)
Pallid sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>	E
West Indian manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	E
Louisiana Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus luteolus</i>	T
Sprague’s pipit	<i>Anthus oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	C
Brown pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	R
(CH) = Listed with critical habitat		

An inspection of the proposed site was conducted on June 3, 2012. Vegetation on the project site included live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) woodland and riparian woodland/scrub habitats that offer

suitable nesting habitat for local common raptorial species such as the Red-shouldered Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Mississippi Kite and Owls. One onsite tree, a scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*), possessed the physical attributes (height and limb diameter) necessary for nesting Bald Eagles and or Osprey. Due to its proximity to the facility and the abundance of other more preferable nest trees at less disturbed sites, it is unlikely that this tree would be used by either of these species. Passerine birds, the House Sparrow and Blue Jay, were observed occupying a nest site. The House Sparrow is an introduced species and therefore is not protected by the MBTA.

4.4.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The No Action alternative would have no determinable impact on any biological resource.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

This alternative would have no impact on species federally listed as threatened or endangered. In correspondence dated August 10, 2012, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Office of Wildlife, National Heritage Program, stated that no impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the project as proposed. In correspondence dated August 31, 2012, the USFWS concurred that the project, as proposed, would have no effect on federal trust resources under its jurisdiction and currently protected by the ESA (Appendix A, Agency Correspondence).

The Blue Jay is under the protection of the MBTA but would not be adversely affected by the project as this species has a very high tolerance for actions that do not result in direct disturbance (e.g., nest removal, nest molestation). A Great Egret rookery is located approximately 300 feet offsite to the north of the proposed project site, and would not be impacted from construction activities due to its distance from the site, relative disturbance in the area and a visual curtain that exists between the action area and the rookery site consisting of dense riparian vegetation.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

This alternative would have no impact on species federally listed as threatened or endangered. In correspondence dated August 10, 2012, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Office of Wildlife, National Heritage Program, stated that no impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the project as proposed. In correspondence dated August 31, 2012, the USFWS concurred that the project, as proposed, would have no effect on federal trust resources under its jurisdiction and currently protected by the ESA (Appendix A, Agency Correspondence).

The Blue Jay is under the protection of the MBTA but would not be adversely affected by the project as this species has a very high tolerance for actions that do not result in direct disturbance (e.g., nest removal, nest molestation). A Great Egret rookery is located approximately 300 feet offsite to the north of the proposed project site, and would not be impacted from construction activities due to its distance from the site, relative disturbance in the area and a visual curtain that exists between the action area and the rookery site consisting of dense riparian vegetation.

4.5 Cultural Resources

4.5.1 Regulatory Setting

The consideration of impacts to cultural resources is mandated under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) as implemented by 36 CFR, Part 800. Requirements include the identification of significant historic properties that may be impacted by the proposed action or alternatives within the project's area of potential effect. Historic properties are defined as archaeological sites, standing structures or other historic resources listed in or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). If adverse effects on historic, archaeological or cultural properties are identified, agencies must consider effects of their activities and attempt to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts to these resources.

FEMA has reviewed this project in accordance with the Statewide Programmatic Agreement dated August 17, 2009 and amended on July 22, 2011 between the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, the Caddo Nation, the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (2009 Statewide PA as amended). The 2009 Statewide PA as amended was created to streamline the Section 106 review process.

4.5.2 Existing Conditions

On July 2, 2012, FEMA Historic Preservation Staff consulted the NRHP Database and the Louisiana Cultural Resources Map and determined that NOPD Stables is not within a listed or eligible National Register Historic District (NRHD) but is located within the view-shed of City Park Historic District, which is eligible for listing in the NRHP. All of the structures in the project area are less than fifty years of age. There is one recorded archaeological site within one mile of the project location. 16OR441 is an early to mid twentieth century historic site. The site was previously determined ineligible for its inclusion in the NRHP. This site will not be affected by the current undertaking. Historic maps indicate that the project location was originally located within a cypress swamp. The soils consist of Harahan-Rita-Westwego, a gulf coast deltaic marsh. The first time construction occurred in the project area is with the Works Progress Administration improvements of City Park. That construction included the establishment of two park roads within the project area.

4.5.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action Alternative

This alternative does not include any FEMA undertaking; therefore FEMA has no further responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

This alternative would involve the repair of the damaged buildings to their original configuration at the New Orleans Police Department's Stables and Canine Unit at City Park, located at Harrison Ave. and Magnolia Dr., New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. There will be no ground disturbing activities involved in construction and the structures involved are under 50 years of age and so there will be no potential to affect historic resources.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location

This alternative would involve the demolition of seven (7) buildings and the construction of two (2) permanent and one temporary structure at the New Orleans Police Department's Stable and Canine Unit at City Park. The archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) includes all required staging and construction activities, measuring approximately six acres. The standing structures APE includes twelve structures, none of which are over 50 years of age, and one historic district within the viewshed of the proposed undertaking. In order to fulfill obligations under Section 106 of the NHPA, and in accordance with the 2009 Statewide PA as amended, a cultural resources review was conducted in order to identify and evaluate potential historic properties if present within the APE that could be affected by the proposed construction activities. The standing structures evaluation and archaeological review were conducted by FEMA Historic Preservation Specialists and Archaeologists on July 3, 2012. None of the structures were found to be eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Archaeological field investigations consisted of surface inspection. No cultural features, intact soils, intact cultural deposits, or discrete cultural components were identified during the field investigations. In accordance with Stipulation VIII.E of the 2009 Statewide PA as amended, FEMA determined that there are No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties as a result of the proposed undertaking and in a letter dated July 30, 2012, with an addendum dated August 8, 2012, provided the SHPO and Tribes (Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Muscogee Creek Nation, Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Texas) the opportunity to review and comment. SHPO concurrence with FEMA's determination was received in a letter dated August 14, 2012. The Tribes did not object within the regulatory timeframes, therefore, in accordance with 36 CFR part 800.2(c)2, FEMA may proceed with funding the undertaking assuming concurrence. The applicant must comply with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) and the Inadvertent Discovery Clause, which can be found under the conditions section of this EA.

4.6 Air Quality

4.6.1 Regulatory Setting

The Clean Air Act (CAA) of 1963, as amended, provides for federal protection of air quality by regulating air pollutant sources and setting emissions standards for certain air pollutants. Under CAA, states adopt ambient air quality standards in order to protect the public from potentially harmful amounts of pollutants. Under the CAA, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes primary and secondary air quality standards. Primary air quality standards protect the public health, including the health of "sensitive populations, such as people with asthma, children, and older adults." Secondary air quality standards protect the public

welfare by promoting ecosystems health, and preventing decreased visibility and damage to crops and buildings. The EPA has set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for the following six criteria pollutants: ozone (O₃), particulate matter (PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and lead (Pb).

The EPA has designated specific areas as NAAQS attainment or non-attainment areas. Non-attainment areas are any areas that do not meet the quality standard for a pollutant, while attainment areas do meet ambient air quality standards.

4.6.2 Existing Conditions

In correspondence dated August 16, 2012, the LDEQ confirms that Orleans Parish is currently classified by the EPA as an attainment area and has no general conformity determination obligations (Appendix A, Agency Correspondence).

4.6.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no short or long term impacts to air quality because no construction would occur.

Alternative 2 - Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

Under this Alternative, short-term impacts to air quality could occur during demolition and construction. Particulate emissions from the generation of fugitive dust during project demolition and construction would be increased temporarily in the immediate project area as a result of this alternative. Other emission sources on site would be internal combustion engines and heavy construction equipment. These effects would be localized and of short duration.

To reduce potential short term effects to air quality from construction related activities, the contractor should be responsible for using BMPs to reduce fugitive dust generation and diesel emissions. The contractor would be required to water down construction areas when necessary to minimize particulate matter and dust. Emissions from fuel-burning internal combustion engines (e.g., heavy equipment and earthmoving machinery) could temporarily increase the levels of some of the criteria pollutants, including CO, NO₂, O₃, PM₁₀, and non-criteria pollutants such as volatile organic compounds. To reduce emission of criteria pollutants, fuel-burning equipment running times would be kept to a minimum and engines would be properly maintained. Long term emissions, such as those generated by small engines used for lawn maintenance and offsite generation of electrical power are expected to be comparable to emissions generated by the previously existing structures and functions. The impacts are expected to be minor and localized.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Same Location (Proposed Action)

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, short-term impacts to air quality could occur during demolition and construction. Particulate emissions from the generation of fugitive dust during project demolition and construction would be increased temporarily in the immediate project area as a result of this alternative. Other emission sources on site would be internal combustion engines and heavy construction equipment. The effects would be localized and of short duration.

To reduce potential short term effects to air quality from construction related activities, the contractor should be responsible for using BMPs to reduce fugitive dust generation and diesel emissions. The contractor would be required to water down construction areas when necessary to minimize particulate matter and dust. Emissions from fuel-burning internal combustion engines (e.g., heavy equipment and earthmoving machinery) could temporarily increase the levels of some of the criteria pollutants, including CO, NO₂, O₃, PM₁₀, and non-criteria pollutants such as volatile organic compounds. To reduce emission of criteria pollutants, fuel-burning equipment running times would be kept to a minimum and engines would be properly maintained. Long term emissions, such as those generated by small engines used for lawn maintenance and offsite generation of electrical power are expected to be comparable to emissions generated by the previously existing structures and functions. The impacts are expected to be minor and localized.

4.7 Noise

Noise is commonly defined as unwanted or unwelcome sound and most commonly measured in decibels (dB) on the A-weighted scale, which is the scale most similar to the range of sounds that the human ear can hear. The Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) is an average measure of sound. The DNL descriptor is accepted by federal agencies as a standard for estimating sound impacts and establishing guidelines for compatible land uses. Sound is federally regulated by the Noise Control Act of 1972, which charges the EPA with preparing guidelines for acceptable ambient noise levels. EPA guidelines, and those of many other federal agencies, state that outdoor sound levels in excess of 55 dB DNL are “normally unacceptable” for noise-sensitive land uses including residences, schools, or hospitals (EPA, 1974). The Noise Control Act, however, only charges implementation of noise standards to those federal agencies that operate noise-producing facilities or equipment. FEMA, by nature of its mission, does not have statutes defining noise.

Orleans Parish has made it unlawful to exceed maximum permissible sound limits in residential and noise-sensitive areas of public spaces. New Orleans, Louisiana Code of Ordinances, § 66-202. The Ordinance places restrictions on any machinery, equipment or device that makes or causes a noise that exceeds 60 decibels between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and a noise that exceeds 55 decibels between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., as monitored from the exterior of the property where the source of the sound is located. Repairs performed by public agencies or utility companies are exempted from this restriction.

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no short or long term impact to noise levels because no construction would occur.

Alternative 2 - Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

Under this Alternative, demolition and reconstruction of the seven damaged structures would result in short-term increases in noise during the demolition/reconstruction period. Equipment and machinery utilized on the proposed project site would meet all local, state and federal noise regulations. Normal activities at the rebuilt facilities are unlikely to affect sensitive receptors in the area.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, demolition of the seven damaged structures and construction of two new structures and driveways would result in short-term increases in noise during the demolition/construction period. Equipment and machinery utilized on the proposed project site would meet all local, state and federal noise regulations. Normal activities at the new facilities are unlikely to affect sensitive receptors in the area.

4.8 Hazardous Materials

4.8.1 Regulatory Setting

The management of hazardous materials is regulated under various federal and state environmental and transportation laws and regulations, including the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (TSCA); the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act; the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; and the Louisiana Voluntary Investigation and Remedial Action statute. The purpose of the regulatory requirements set forth under these laws is to ensure the protection of human health and the environment through proper management (identification, use, storage, treatment, transport, and disposal) of these materials. Some of these laws provide for the investigation and cleanup of sites already contaminated by releases of hazardous materials, wastes, or substances.

The TSCA (codified at 15 U.S.C., Ch. 53), authorizes the EPA to protect the public from “unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment” by regulating the introduction, manufacture, importation, sale, use and disposal of specific new or already existing chemicals. “New chemicals” are defined as “any chemical substance which is not included in the chemical substance list compiled and published under [TSCA] section 8(b).” Existing chemicals include any chemical currently listed under section 8(b), including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), asbestos, radon, lead-based paint, chlorofluorocarbons, dioxin and hexavalent chromium.

TSCA Subchapter I, “Control of Toxic Substances” (§§ 2601-2629), regulates the disposal of PCB products, sets limits for PCB contamination of the environment, and authorizes the remediation of sites contaminated with PCB. Subchapter II, “Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response” (§§ 2641-2656), authorizes the EPA to impose requirements for asbestos abatement in schools, and requires accreditation of those who inspect for asbestos-containing materials. Subchapter IV, “Lead Exposure Reduction” (§§ 2681-2692), requires the EPA to identify sources of lead contamination in the environment, to regulate the amounts of lead allowed in products, and to establish state programs that monitor and reduce lead exposure.

4.8.2 Existing Conditions

This section describes the potential for prior releases of hazardous materials to the environment on the proposed site, or close enough to the proposed site to have affected its surface soils or subsurface media (soils and groundwater). This EA also evaluates the potential for the proposed project to use hazardous materials, generate hazardous wastes, and release hazardous substances.

EPA and LDEQ database searches for the proposed project site revealed that there are no hazardous waste, Louisiana Volunteer Remedial Program (VRP)/Brownfield sites, or leaking underground storage tank sites (LUSTs) located on or in close proximity to the proposed site. No sites of concern were found during a review of the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) database for other hazardous waste management and disposal, solid waste disposal, enforcement, and other databases on the proposed site. There are no recorded oil and gas wells on or near the project site.

The seven damaged structures were constructed prior to 1978 and may contain surfaces coated with Lead-Based Paint (LBP).

4.8.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The No Action Alternative would not disturb any hazardous materials or create any potential hazard to human health.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

No hazardous materials, wastes, or substances (including contaminated soil or groundwater) have been identified at the project site. Demolition and Reconstruction of the seven NOPD Canine and Mounted Division facilities in substantially the same footprint would not disturb any hazardous materials or create any potential hazard to human health. Applicant would be responsible with respect to demolition activities and possible presence of lead based paint for complying with the TSCA, § 402(c) requirements (15 U.S.C. § 2682[c]).

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

No hazardous materials, wastes, or substances (including contaminated soil or groundwater) have been identified at the proposed site. If hazardous constituents are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during the proposed construction operations, appropriate measures for the proper assessment, remediation and management of the contamination shall be initiated in accordance with applicable federal, State, and local rules and regulations. Applicant would be responsible with respect to demolition activities and possible presence of lead based paint for complying with TSCA § 402(c) requirements (15 U.S.C. § 2682[c]).

Project construction may involve the use of hazardous materials (*e.g.*, petroleum products, cement, caustics, acids, solvents, paints, electronic components, pesticides/herbicides and fertilizers, treated timber) and may result in the generation of small amounts of hazardous wastes. Best management practices and appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control spills of hazardous materials shall be taken, and any hazardous and non-hazardous wastes generated disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements.

4.9 Environmental Justice

4.9.1 Regulatory Setting

Executive Order 12898, entitled “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations,” was signed on February 11, 1994. The Executive

Order directs federal agencies to make achieving environmental justice part of their missions by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high adverse human health, environmental, economic, and social effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority or low-income populations.

4.9.2 Existing Conditions

Socioeconomic and demographic data for the project area was reviewed to determine if the proposed action would have a disproportionate impact on minority or low-income persons. According to the U.S. Census, the population of zip code 70124 is: White, 90.1%, Black or African American, 4.8%; and Asian, 2.1%. The population of the City of New Orleans is: 33.0 % White, 60.2% Black of African American, 2.9% Asian. The median household income for zip code 70124 is \$51,684, and 3.6% of families earn below the poverty level. The median household income for the City of New Orleans is \$37,468, and 24.4% of families earn below the poverty level.

4.9.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no disproportionately high or adverse impacts on minority or low-income populations.

Alternative 2 – Reconstruction in the Same Footprint

Reconstruction of the damaged NOPD Canine and Mounted Division facilities in substantially the same footprint in the City Park location would have no disproportionate adverse impacts to low-income or minority populations.

Alternative 3 – Consolidation at Existing Location (Proposed Action)

The proposed action would further the NOPD Canine and Mounted Divisions' public safety mission, and thus provide a service in general to all New Orleans residents and visitors, by providing needed additional training and administrative capacity. There would be no adverse impacts to any population.

5.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

According to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, cumulative impacts represent the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR 1508.7). In the immediate vicinity of the project area, a temporary stable building is being constructed on site to maintain the necessary functions of the NOPD Mounted Division and Canine Units throughout the permanent facility construction process. The entire Louisiana Gulf Coast is undergoing recovery efforts after the 2005 hurricane season which includes demolition, reconstruction, and new construction, within the private sector as well as federal and state government. The USACE is undergoing one of the largest projects in their history, rebuilding the Greater New Orleans HSDRRS, which will ultimately improve approximately 350

miles of levees, concrete floodwalls, and other structures to meet the 100-year level of risk reduction. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) has an unusually large number of infrastructure improvements ongoing in and around Orleans parish such as the Huey P. Long Bridge widening, the I-10 Twin Span Bridge replacement, and the I-10 and Causeway interchange improvements. The combination of all recovery development projects, including those mentioned above would have cumulative effects to Orleans Parish. In accordance with NEPA, and to the extent reasonable and practical, this EA considered the combined effects of the Proposed Action Alternative and other actions occurring in the vicinity of the proposed project site. Based on past, current, and proposed actions in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area, cumulative impacts are anticipated but unknown at this time.

6.0 CONDITIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Based upon the studies and consultations undertaken in this EA, several conditions must be met and mitigation measures must be taken by City of New Orleans (Applicant) prior to and during project implementation.

- In accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations, the applicant is responsible for acquiring any necessary permits and/or clearances prior to the commencement of any construction related activities.
- A Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit may be required in accordance with the Clean Water Act and the Louisiana Clean Water Code. The applicant shall require its contractor to prepare, certify, and implement a construction storm water pollution prevention plan approved by LDEQ to prevent sediment and construction material transport from the project site. The applicant shall comply with all conditions of the required permit. All coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files.
- This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. In a letter dated September 28, 2012, the Louisiana Office of Coastal Management determined that the granting of financial assistance is fully consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The applicant is responsible for coordinating with and obtaining any required Coastal Use Permit(s) (CUP) or other authorizations from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) Office of Coastal Management's Permits and Mitigation Division prior to initiating work. The applicant must comply with all conditions of the required permits. All coordination pertaining to these activities and applicant compliance with any conditions should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.
- The applicant must coordinate all construction activities with the local floodplain manager prior to the start of any activities, and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances. As per 44 CFR 9.11 (d) (9), mitigation or minimization standards must be applied where possible. The replacement of building contents, materials and equipment should be, where possible, wet or dry-proofed, elevated, or relocated to or above the community established base flood elevation. Hazardous materials need to be elevated above the 0.2 % annual chance (500-year) flood elevation.

- Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act: If human bone or unmarked grave(s) are present with the project area, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two hours of the discovery.
- Inadvertent Discovery Clause: If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their Public Assistance (PA) contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA Historic Preservation (HP) staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA HP completes consultation with the SHPO.
- This project involves the demolition or renovation, of a facility constructed prior to 1978 that may contain surfaces coated with Lead-Based Paint (LBP). The applicant is responsible for complying with the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 402(c) requirements. All coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files.
- If any asbestos containing materials, lead based paint and/or other hazardous materials are found during remediation or repair activities, the applicant shall comply with all federal, state and local abatement and disposal requirements under the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and Louisiana Administrative Code 33:III 5151. Demolition activities related to Possible Asbestos-Containing Materials (PACM) must be inspected for ACM/PACM where it is safe to do so. Should asbestos containing materials (ACM) be present, the applicant is responsible for ensuring proper disposal in accordance with the previously referenced Administrative Orders. Demolition activity notification must be sent to the LDEQ before work begins. All coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files.
- If hazardous constituents are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during the proposed construction operations, appropriate measures for the proper assessment, remediation and management of the contamination should be initiated in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations.
- Project construction may involve the use of potentially hazardous materials (*e.g.*, petroleum products, cement, caustics, acids, solvents, paint, electronic components, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, treated timber), and may result in the generation of small amounts of hazardous wastes. Appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control spills of hazardous materials must be taken and generated hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are required to be disposed in accordance with applicable Federal, state and local regulations.

7.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND AGENCY CONSULTATION

FEMA is the lead federal agency for conducting the NEPA compliance process for this Public Assistance project. It is the responsibility of the lead agency to conduct the preparation and review of NEPA documents in a way that is responsive to the needs of the Parish communities while meeting the spirit and intent of NEPA and complying with all NEPA provisions. As part of the development of early interagency coordination related to the proposed action, state and federal resource protection agencies were contacted and FEMA distributed an informal scoping notification through a Solicitation of Views.

These agencies include the Louisiana State Historical Preservation Officer, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. FEMA has received no objections to the proposed project. Comments and conditions received from the agencies have been incorporated into this Environmental Assessment (Appendix A, Agency Correspondence).

8.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

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- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2012. National Wetlands Inventory Maps. <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/mapper.html>.

DRAFT

Appendix A
Agency Correspondence

From: [Tamara Mick](#)
To: [Tregle, Thomas](#)
Subject: Re: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: City of New Orleans Police Department, Stables & Canine Units
Date: Wednesday, August 08, 2012 08:35:35 AM

Tommy,

Based on the information provided for the New Orleans Police Department Stables and Canine Units, Orleans Parish, proposing to demolish and remove seven structures and replace with two new structures, and Relevant to the Clean Water Act 404(b)(1) Guidelines, EPA would have no objection to the proposed project, however, if the area of concern contained jurisdictional wetlands, the appropriate permits would have to be obtained prior to commencing construction. Thanks for the opportunity to review and comment.

Tamara Mick
US EPA Region 6
Wetlands Section (6WQ-EM)
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
214-665-7134

From: "Tregle, Thomas" <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov>
To: "beth.dixon@la.gov" <beth.dixon@la.gov>, "amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil" <amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil>, Tamara Mick/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, "cmichon@wlf.la.gov" <cmichon@wlf.la.gov>, "Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov" <Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov>, "Karl.morgan@la.gov" <Karl.morgan@la.gov>, "amy_trahan@fws.gov" <amy_trahan@fws.gov>
Cc: "Borden, Adam" <Adam.Borden@fema.dhs.gov>, "Stuart, Kristiaan (CTR)" <Kristiaan.Stuart@associates.fema.dhs.gov>
Date: 08/07/2012 08:57 AM
Subject: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: City of New Orleans Police Department, Stables & Canine Units

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA-DR 1603/1607 LA
1 Seine Court
New Orleans, LA 70114
August 06, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster damaged, publicly owned facilities or certain private non-profit organizations.

On August 29, 2005 the Hurricane Katrina caused extensive damage from flooding to the City of New Orleans Police Department Canine Unit and Mounted Division animal training and support structures located in City Park near the intersection of Marconi Drive and Harrison Ave., (Figures 1 & 2) (lat/long 30.004630°, -90.097093°, WGS84). The applicant is proposing to demolish and remove 7 structures and replace them with 2 new structures,

a Mounted Division Administrative Building and a Canine Office and Kennel Building, located in alternate locations. The alternate locations are within the facility's City Park location but represent new construction as they will not be utilizing previously developed building footprints. The proposed project will consolidate the facility's structures and provide animal care rooms, training rooms, administrative offices, equipment storage and animal food storage at each of the two newly proposed structures. The two new structures will require new utility hook ups, a new asphalt road entrance/exit tied into Harrison Ave., a new asphalt driveway leading (Figure 3) to the proposed Mounted Division Admin. Building and landscape slope modifications (Figure 4). To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable federal regulations, FEMA will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the proposed construction of the damaged support buildings and the construction of two new buildings at alternate locations. To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

The attached figures show the location for a proposed project for which FEMA Public Assistance funding has been requested.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2323 emailed to thomas.tregle.fema.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Tommy Tregle, Environmental and Historical Preservation Department, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist at (504) 762-2413.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USFWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

Regards,

Tommy Tregle
Environmental Protection Specialist
DHS/FEMA
Louisiana Recovery Office
1 Seine Court, 4th Floor
New Orleans, La 70114

504-762-2413 (Desk)
504-908-5374 (Mobile)

[attachment "FEMA AIDB 1789 SOV Figures 1-4.pdf" deleted by Tamara Mick/R6/USEPA/US]

From: [Beth Altazan-Dixon](#)
To: [Tregle, Thomas](#)
Subject: DEQ SOV 120807/1665 New Orleans Police Department, Stables and Canine Units-Demolition and Reconstruction
Date: Thursday, August 16, 2012 02:17:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

August 16, 2012

Thomas Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist
DHS/FEMA-Louisiana Recovery Office
1 Seine Court, 4th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70114
Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov

RE: 120807/1665 New Orleans Police Department, Stables and Canine Units-Demolition and Reconstruction
FEMA Funding
Orleans Parish

Dear Mr. Tregle:

The Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Business and Community Outreach Division has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.
- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit application or Notice of Intent must be submitted no later than January 1, 2013. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.
- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.

Currently, Orleans Parish is classified as attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and has no general conformity determination obligations.

Please send all future requests to my attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (225) 219-3958 or by email at beth.dixon@la.gov.

Sincerely,



Beth Altazan-Dixon, EPS III
Performance Management
LDEQ/Office of the Secretary
Business and Community Outreach and Incentives Division
P.O. Box 4301 (602 N. 5th Street)
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301
Phone: 225-219-3958
Fax: 225-325-8148
Email: beth.dixon@la.gov



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Date August 10, 2012

Name Thomas Tregle

Company FEMA

Street Address 1 Seine Court, 4th floor

City, State, Zip New Orleans, La 70114

Project City of New Orleans Police Department, Stables & Canine Units

Project ID 3212012

Invoice Number 12081009

Personnel of the Habitat Section of the Coastal & Non-Game Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project. After careful review of our database, no impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or federal parks, wildlife refuges, scenic streams, or wildlife management areas are known at the specified site within Louisiana's boundaries.

The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the LNHP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. Heritage reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. LNHP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time Heritage tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the LNHP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,


for Amity Bass, Coordinator
Natural Heritage Program



FEMA

August 15, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: John Connolly
Sr. Public Assistance Advisor
DHS/FEMA Louisiana/Recovery Office

FROM: Frank Pagano
Mitigation Division Director
DHS/FEMA Region 6

SUBJECT: Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes One Percent Annual Elevation

At your request, we have reviewed the projects you provided for consideration to be built to the 2006 Annual Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). In accordance with the Best Available Data Guidance Memorandum issued on October 13, 2011, for areas of Greater New Orleans located within the recently constructed Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) and based on the source adopted by Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes, we recommend using the 2006 ABFE's for all of the following locations:

Applicant	Project Title	Proposed Location	Proposed Latitude	Proposed Longitude
St. Bernard Parish School Board	Chalmette High Sports Fields	1100 E. Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, LA	29.94073	-89.95257
New Orleans Police Department	NOPD Stables and Canine Units	North of intersection of Harris Avenue and Magnolia Avenue, New Orleans, LA	30.00463	-90.097093
Orleans Parish School Board	Mary M. Bethune Elementary School	4040 Eagle Street, New Orleans, LA	29.972821	-90.114339

The applicant must coordinate all reconstruction activities with the local floodplain manager and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Matt DuBois either by telephone at (940) 898-5175 or by email at matthew.dubois@fema.dhs.gov.

From: [Richard Hartman](#)
To: [Tregle, Thomas](#)
Subject: Re: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: City of New Orleans Police Department, Stables & Canine Units
Date: Tuesday, August 07, 2012 11:59:03 AM

Mr. Tregle: The proposed project would not adversely impact essential fish habitat, wetlands supportive of marine fishery species, or marine fishery resources themselves. As such, we have no comments to provide on this project and recommend those resources not be addressed in any NEPA-related document.

Richard Hartman
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service

On Tue, Aug 7, 2012 at 8:56 AM, Tregle, Thomas <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov> wrote:

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA-DR 1603/1607 LA
1 Seine Court
New Orleans, LA 70114

August 06, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster damaged, publicly owned facilities or certain private non-profit organizations.

On August 29, 2005 the Hurricane Katrina caused extensive damage from flooding to the City of New Orleans Police Department Canine Unit and Mounted Division animal training and support structures located in City Park near the intersection of Marconi Drive and Harrison Ave., (Figures 1 & 2) (lat/long 30.004630°, -90.097093°, WGS84). The applicant is proposing to demolish and remove 7 structures and replace them with 2 new structures, a Mounted Division Administrative Building and a Canine Office and Kennel Building, located in alternate locations. The alternate locations are within the facility's City Park location but represent new construction as they will not be utilizing previously developed building footprints. The proposed project will consolidate the facility's structures and provide animal care rooms, training rooms, administrative offices,

equipment storage and animal food storage at each of the two newly proposed structures. The two new structures will require new utility hook ups, a new asphalt road entrance/exit tied into Harrison Ave., a new asphalt driveway leading (Figure 3) to the proposed Mounted Division Admin. Building and landscape slope modifications (Figure 4).

To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable federal regulations, FEMA will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the proposed construction of the damaged support buildings and the construction of two new buildings at alternate locations. To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

The attached figures show the location for a proposed project for which FEMA Public Assistance funding has been requested.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2323 emailed to thomas.tregle.fema.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Tommy Tregle, Environmental and Historical Preservation Department, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist at (504) 762-2413.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USFWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

Regards,

Tommy Tregle

Environmental Protection Specialist

DHS/FEMA

Louisiana Recovery Office

1 Seine Court, 4th Floor

New Orleans, La 70114

504-762-2413 (Desk)

504-908-5374 (Mobile)



JAY DARDENNE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

CHARLES R. DAVIS
DEPUTY SECRETARY

PAM BREUX
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

August 14, 2012

Ms. Katherine Zeringue
Environmental Liaison Officer
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA Mail Center—First Floor
1 Seine Ct.
New Orleans, LA 70114

RE: Section 106 Review Hurricane Katrina (FEMA-1603-DR-LA)
Applicant: City of New Orleans (NOPD Stables and Canine Unit)
Undertaking: Demolition of Seven Structures and construction of two permanent structures and one temporary structure, NOPD Stables, City Park, Harrison Ave. & Magnolia Dr., New Orleans, Louisiana (A/I 1789)
Determination: No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties

Dear Ms. Zeringue:

Thank you for your letter dated July 30, 2012 and received August 2, 2012, and revised letter (Addendum) dated August 8, 2012 and received August 13, 2012 regarding the above referenced project. We understand that FEMA through its Public Assistance Program proposes to fund: (1) the demolition of seven structures, (2) the construction of three structures, and (3) the construction of access roads, with all activities described herein to be located at the complex known as the New Orleans Police Department Stables, City Park, near the junction of Harrison Avenue and Magnolia Drive, in New Orleans, Louisiana (Undertaking).

Section 106 review for the Undertaking is being conducted in accordance with the *Programmatic Agreement among FEMA, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer, the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, the Caddo Nation, the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation*, dated August 17, 2009 and amended on July 22, 2011 (2009 Statewide PA as amended).

New construction will consist of the Canine Office/Kennel Building (single-story, 40ft. wide x 60ft. long), and the Mounted Division Administration Building (single-story, 75ft. wide x 135ft. long), and one temporary structure (a 40ft. x 240ft. single-story stable). Architectural elevations for the Mounted Division Administration Building are presented in Figure 8, on Page 13 of 20, in your letter dated July 30, 2012. Elevations for the proposed Canine Kennel Building are shown in Figure 3, Page 6 of 7, in your letter dated August 8, 2012. And Figure 2 on page 5 of 7 of your letter dated August 8, 2012 shows a plan view of the proposed project area including new alignments for access roads.

The structures proposed for demolition include the Captain's Office, Canine Storage Shed, Grounds Storage Shed, Open Stables, Canine Office, Tack House, and Canine Shed. We concur with FEMA's determination that the seven structures proposed for demolition are not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The seven structures are presented in Table 1, on Pages 2 and 3 of 20 of your letter dated July 30, 2012.

Table 1 Summary of FEMA's Determination of Eligibility for Listing in the NRHP

Building/Property Name	Date Built	FEMA's Determination of NRHP Eligibility	Date of SHPO Concurrence
City Park Historic District	1891-1957	Determined eligible under Criteria A & C in consultation dated 10/15/07.	Retains eligibility, concur 8/14/2012
Captain's Office	1995	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Canine Storage Shed	1998	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Grounds Storage Shed	ca.1998	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Open Stables	ca.1998	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Canine Office	1988	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Kennel	1988	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Tack House	1998	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Canine Shed	2000	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
NOPD Main Stables	1973, 1988	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Metal Storage Shed	ca.1995	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Corral	ca.1998	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012
Temporary Trailers	2005	Not eligible for listing on NRHP: Less than 50 years old and does not meet Criterion G	Concur 8/14/2012

Ms. Katherine Zeringue
August 14, 2012
Page 3

We agree that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for standing structures consists of the viewshed associated with the new structures, while the six-acre APE for archaeology takes into consideration all ground-disturbing activities related to the demolition of existing structures, construction of new structures, road building, grading and staging. The amended APEs are presented on Page 7 of 7, in Figure 4 of your letter dated August 8, 2012. We understand that the standing structures APE includes a portion of the National Register-eligible City Park Historic District. However, we agree that there are no elements contributing to the Historic District which are contained within the APE.

FEMA identified twelve structures situated outside of the boundaries of the City Park Historic District, but lying within the standing structures APE, including the Captain's Office, Canine Storage Shed, Grounds Storage Shed, Open Stables, Canine Office, Kennel, Tack House, Canine Shed, NOPD Main Stables, Metal Storage Shed, Corral, and Temporary Trailers. We concur with FEMA's determination that the twelve structures contained within the standing structures APE are less than fifty years old, and not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion G. The twelve subject structures are presented on Table 1, in your letter dated July 30, 2012. A summary of your table is presented herein.

Regarding potential archaeological resources, we understand that FEMA performed standard background review utilizing the requisite Louisiana Division of Archaeology, FEMA Cultural Resources Maps, and other applicable source data to determine historic land-use conditions within the APE. Background research included the 1875 copy of Carlos Trudeau's Map of New Orleans (1798), T.S. Hardee, Topographical and Drainage Map of New Orleans and Surroundings (1878), Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, USACE Mississippi River Commission Survey Maps, and USGS historic quad maps.

According to your letter, the APE is situated within the Moderate Probability Zone for archaeological resources. One previously recorded archaeological site (16OR441) was found earlier not to be eligible for listing on the NRHP; the site is mapped well outside of the APE and will not be affected by the Undertaking. As presented in your letter, the project area was not developed until the 1930s. And on July 3, 2012 a FEMA archaeologist conducted a pedestrian survey of the project location and identified no archaeological materials within the APE. Construction episodes associated with the 1990s development of the APE resulted in a high degree of subsurface disturbance. We agree that it is unlikely intact archaeological deposits would be present within the APE.

Ms. Katherine Zeringue
August 14, 2012
Page 4

Therefore, we concur with FEMA's determination that the Undertaking as proposed would result in a finding of no adverse effect to historic properties.

For more information, please contact Rachel Watson at (225) 342-8165, or via email at rwatson@crt.la.gov, or David Livingstone, at (504) 762-2264, david.livingstone@associates.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer

PB: RW/DL:s



"Tregle, Thomas"
 <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov>
 08/07/2012 08:57 AM

To "beth.dixon@la.gov" <beth.dixon@la.gov>, "amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil" <amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil>, cc "Borden, Adam" <Adam.Borden@fema.dhs.gov>, "Stuart, Kristiaan (CTR)" <Kristiaan.Stuart@associates.fema.dhs.gov>

bcc
 Subject Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: City of New Orleans Police Department, Stables & Canine Units

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 Federal Emergency Management Agency
 FEMA-DR 1603/1607 LA
 1 Seine Court
 New Orleans, LA 70114

August 06, 2012
 MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution
 SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views
 To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster damaged, publicly owned facilities or certain private non-profit organizations.

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To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable federal regulations, FEMA will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the proposed construction of the damaged support buildings and the construction of two new buildings at alternate locations. To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

The attached figures show the location for a proposed project for which FEMA Public Assistance funding has been requested.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2323 emailed to thomas.tregle.fema.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Tommy Tregle, Environmental and Historical Preservation Department, at the address

This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed,
 Will have no effect on those resources
 Is not likely to adversely affect those resources.
 This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

Debra A Fuller August 31, 2012
 Acting Supervisor
 Louisiana Field Office
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist at (504) 762-2413.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USFWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

Regards,

Tommy Tregle

Environmental Protection Specialist

DHS/FEMA

Louisiana Recovery Office

1 Seine Court, 4th Floor

New Orleans, La 70114

504-762-2413 (Desk)

504-908-5374 (Mobile)



FEMA AIDB 1789 SOV Figures 1-4.pdf

Appendix B
Eight-Step Decision Making Process

**CITY OF NEW ORLEANS (CNO)
CNO: NOPD STABLES AND CANINE UNIT
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATE PROJECT REVIEW**

Current/Proposed Location:

Within the project area in City Park, the applicant, CNO, proposes to demolish seven (7) structures including a captain's office, a canine storage shed, a grounds storage shed, a tack house, an open stable building, a canine office, and a second canine shed. Two (2) structures including a stable building and a metal storage shed will be repaired back to their original pre-disaster condition. The general functions and capacity that each of the seven structures proposed for demolition previously provided will be incorporated into a new elevated office building and canine kennel building with two new asphalt driveways connecting to Harrison Avenue. One of the proposed asphalt driveways will be laid over existing gravel, while a second asphalt driveway will be constructed nearby on new ground. The proposed driveway to be constructed on new ground will be arranged in such a way as to avoid the removal of any large trees. The existing equine arena will be reduced in size in order to incorporate the proposed new elevated office building into the layout.

Floodplain Review:

By Memorandum of August 15, 2012 from Frank Pagano, Mitigation Division Director of FEMA Region 6 to John Connolly, Senior Public Assistance Advisor, Louisiana Recovery Office, the 2008 Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) elevation is not required; however, the applicant must coordinate all reconstruction activities with the local floodplain manager and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances. Per Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map LA-EE30 dated June 5, 2006, the site is located within ABFE Elevation 0.5 feet or 3 feet above Highest Existing Adjacent Grade (HEAG), whichever is highest. In compliance with EO 11988, an 8-step process, showing considered alternatives, was completed and is attached and on file. A Cumulative Final Public Notice was published 10/26/07 - 11/07/07, and is attached or on file. The applicant is required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator regarding floodplain permit(s) prior to the start of any activities. All coordination pertaining to these activities and applicant compliance with any conditions should be documented and copies forwarded to the LA GOHSEP and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files. Per 44 CFR 9.11(d)(9), for the replacement of building contents, materials and equipment, where possible, disaster-proofing of the building and/or elimination of such future losses should occur by relocation of those building contents, materials and equipment outside or above the base floodplain.

**CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
CNO: NOPD STABLES AND CANINE UNIT
Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management
Eight-Step Decision Making Process [EA]**

Date: 10/01/12

**Prepared by: Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist
Request for Multiple Building Demo, Consolidation, and Reconfiguration**

Location-A/I Database #: 1789; DR-LA-1603

Applicant: City of New Orleans

Project Title: NOPD Stables and Canine Unit

FIPS #: 071-55000-00; PW #: 11834

Located in City Park, General Site Coordinates: Lat 30.004839 Lon -90.096672

**EO 11988-FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
EO 11990-WETLAND PROTECTION**

STEP 1 Determine whether the proposed action is located in a wetland and/or the 100-year floodplain (500-year floodplain for critical actions [44 CFR 9.4]), or whether it has the potential to affect or be affected by a floodplain or a wetland (see 44 CFR 9.7).

The proposed activities are located on Preliminary DFIRM 22071C0115F dated 11/13/08, and is within Zone AE, EL -3, a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance (100-year) flood; base flood elevations determined. Per Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map LA-EE30 dated June 5, 2006, the site is located within ABFE Elevation 0.5 feet or 3 feet above Highest Existing Adjacent Grade (HEAG), whichever is highest.

The project is located in a wetland as identified by:

STEP 2 Notify the public at the earliest possible time of the intent to carry out an action in a floodplain or wetland, and involve the affected and interested public in the decision making process (see 44 CFR 9.8).

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Notice will be or has been provided by:

A cumulative Public Notice was published in the New Orleans Times Picayune, Baton Rouge Advocate, Lafayette Daily Advertiser, Lake Charles American Press and the Hammond Star on November 7-9, 2005.

STEP 3 Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating the proposed action in a floodplain or wetland (including alternative sites, actions and the "no action" option) [see 44 C FR 9.9]. If a practicable alternative exists outside the floodplain or wetland, FEMA must locate the action at the alternative site.

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Alternative identified in the EA Document or is described below:

Alternative 1: No action is not a viable alternative; it would leave the CNO NOPD Stables and Canine Unit without essential facilities to carry out necessary daily functions.

Alternative 2: Repair all structures to pre-existing condition is not a viable alternative; it would no longer serve the NOPD Stables & Canine Unit's increased capacity and functions in that configuration.

Alternative 3: The demolition, repair, and consolidation of the facilities in its original general location is the most viable alternative to fulfill the mission of the CNO NOPD Stables & Canine Unit. The applicant is required coordinate with the Local Floodplain Administrator and comply with floodplain ordinances and the local Codes & Standards requirements. A applicant is responsible for meeting all requirements of the permit(s).

STEP 4 Identify the full range or potential direct or indirect impacts associated with, the occupancy or modification of floodplains and wetlands and the potential direct and indirect support of floodplain and wetland development that could result from the proposed action (see 44 CFR 9.10).

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Alternatives identified in the EA Document or is described below:

Alternative 3: The demolition, repair, and consolidation of existing structures of the NOPD Stables and Canine Unit in its original location, in compliance with current Codes and Standards including the local Floodplain Ordinances, is unlikely to result in any negative impacts to the floodplain.

STEP 5 **Minimize the potential adverse impacts and support to or within floodplains and wetlands to be identified under step # 4, restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains, and preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values served by wetlands (see 44 CFR 9.11).**

- Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.
- Applicable - Mitigation measures identified in the EA Document or as described below:

By Memorandum of August 15, 2012 from Frank Pagano, Mitigation Division Director of FEMA Region 6 to John Connolly, Senior Public Assistance Advisor, Louisiana Recovery Office, the 2008 Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) elevation is not required; however, the applicant must coordinate all reconstruction activities with the local floodplain manager and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances. Per 44 CFR 9.11(d) (9), the replacement of building contents, materials and equipment, where possible, disaster proofing of the building and/or elimination of such future losses by relocation of those building contents, materials and equipment to or above the preliminary DFIRM elevation.

STEP 6 **Reevaluate the proposed action to determine first, if it is still practicable in light of its exposure to flood hazards, the extent to which it will aggravate the hazards to others. And it's potential to disrupt floodplain and wetland values and second, if alternatives preliminarily rejected at step # 3 are practicable in light of the information gained in steps # 4 and # 5. FEMA shall not act in a floodplain or wetland unless it is the only practicable location (see 44 CFR 9.9).**

- Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.
- Applicable - Action proposed is located in the only practicable location as described below:

The demolition, repair, and consolidation of the facilities in its original general location is not likely to adversely affect the floodplain.

- Applicable - Action proposed is not located in the only practicable location. Describe below:

STEP 7 Prepare and provide the public with a finding and public explanation of any final decision that the floodplain or wetland is the only practicable alternative (see 44 CFR 9.12).

- Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

- Applicable - Finding is or will be prepared as described below:

Public Notice Dated: The cumulative final notice was published on October 26, 2007.

STEP 8 Review the implementation and post-implementation phases of the proposed action to ensure that the requirements of the order are fully implemented. Oversight responsibility shall be integrated into existing processes.

- Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

- Applicable - Approval conditioned on review of implementation and post-implementation phases to insure compliance of the order(s).

Review the implementation and post-implementation phases of the proposed action to ensure that the requirements stated in 44 CFR 9.11 are fully implemented. Oversight responsibility shall be integrated into existing processes.

- Applicable - Oversight responsibility established as follows:

Appendix C
Public Notice

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
CONSOLIDATION AT EXISTING LOCATION OF THE NOPD
STABLES AND CANINE UNIT, ORLEANS PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed reconstruction and reorientation of Hurricane Katrina damaged NOPD Stables and Canine Unit structures presently located at Harrison Avenue and Marconi Drive in City Park, New Orleans, Louisiana. The proposed action is for replacement of seven (7) damaged NOPD Stables and Canine Unit buildings eligible for repair with two (2) new facilities of the same function and capacity, in the same location and a different orientation at Harrison Avenue and Marconi Drive, City Park, New Orleans, LA 70124 at Latitude 30.004630, Longitude -90.097093. The City of New Orleans seeks federal grant funds for this action eligible for repairs under a Presidential Disaster Declaration, signed on August 29, 2005 (FEMA-1603-DR-LA).

This proposed action would include demolition of the existing seven damaged structures and reduction of an existing equine arena; construction of a new elevated office building and new canine kennel building; construction of two new asphalt driveways; construction of temporary stables; landscape slope modifications; site clearing where necessary, and upgrading, extension and placement of existing and new appurtenant utilities (electricity, water, and sewer) for the site. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft EA has been prepared to evaluate the action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

A public notice will be published for 5 days in the local newspaper, *The Times-Picayune*, on the following dates: December 19, 21, 23, 26, and 28, 2012. The public comment period will begin on December 19, 2012 and extend through January 2, 2013 to allow the public a full 15 days to comment. Written comments on the Draft EA or related matters can be faxed to FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office at (504) 762-2323; or mailed to FEMA Louisiana Recovery Office, 1 Seine Court, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114. The Draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/environmental-planning-and-historic-preservation-program/environmental-documents-public-notice-3>. The Draft EA will be available for public review at the Orleans Parish Main Library at 219 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112, (hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri. & Sat.).

Based on FEMA's findings to date, no significant adverse environmental effects are anticipated. However, if FEMA receives new information that results in a change from no adverse effects then FEMA would revise the findings and issue a second public notice allowing time for additional comments. 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. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

Appendix D

Draft Fonsi



FEMA

**DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT STABLES & CANINE UNIT
NEW ORLEANS, ORLEANS PARISH, LOUISIANA
*FEMA-1603-DR-LA***

Introduction

As a result of damages from Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1603-DR-LA) to provide Federal assistance to designated disaster areas in Louisiana. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 93288) Section 406 authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program to provide financial and other forms of assistance to State and local governments to support response, recovery, and mitigation efforts following Presidentially declared disasters.

In accordance with 44 CFR Part 10, FEMA regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared. The purpose of the EA was to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with the reconstruction and reorientation of several structures located at the City of New Orleans (CNO)(Applicant), New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) Stables and Canine Unit facility, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The proposed project aims to restore and consolidate NOPD various Mounted Division and Canine Unit functions and capacity lost on August 29, 2005, as a result of Hurricane Katrina. The damaged stables and canine unit facilities, located in City Park, are integral parts of the NOPD's crime fighting and crowd management activities and provided the NOPD with kennels, stables, training areas, and medical and administrative space essential to Canine Unit and Mounted Division activities. Consolidation at the same location of the seven severely damaged facilities into two new structures with the same functions and capacity is needed for the City of New Orleans to achieve its objective of increasing practicality and functionality and lowering future operating costs. The alternatives considered include: 1) the No Action Alternative; 2) Reconstruction of the seven damaged NOPD Stables and Canine Unit buildings in the same footprint; and 3) Reconstruction and consolidation of the preexisting functions and capacity of the Stables & Canine Unit into two new buildings reoriented at the same location.

Proposed Action

The proposed action is for the demolition and replacement of seven (7) severely damaged NOPD Stables and Canine Unit buildings with two (2) newly constructed buildings of the same function and capacity and at the same location as the existing facilities, north of the intersection of Harrison Avenue and Marconi Drive in City Park, New Orleans, LA, but with

a different orientation. The two new facilities would consist of a new elevated office building and a canine kennel building. This action would include construction of the two new buildings, two new asphalt driveways, site preparation, including reduction of an existing equine arena, installation of necessary new and upgraded utilities, connections and appurtenances, and some landscape slope modifications. A temporary stable building is currently under construction and was considered as a connected action.

Findings

FEMA has evaluated the proposed project for significant adverse impacts to water resources (wetlands, floodplains and other waters), coastal resources, biological resources, cultural resources, air quality, noise, hazardous materials and environmental justice. During the construction period, short-term impacts to water quality, air quality, and noise are anticipated. Also during the demolition period, lead based paint and or other hazardous substances may be discovered; however, Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) § 402(c) compliance would be required to limit any potential impacts. All short-term impacts require conditions to minimize and mitigate impacts to the proposed project site and surrounding areas.

Conditions

The following conditions must be met as part of the implementation of the project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize federal funds:

- In accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations, the APPLICANT is responsible for acquiring any necessary permits and/or clearances prior to the commencement of any construction related activities.
- A Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit may be required in accordance with the Clean Water Act and the Louisiana Clean Water Code. The applicant is required to have its contractor prepare, certify, and implement an Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) approved construction storm water pollution prevention plan to prevent sediment and construction material transport from the project site. The NOPD shall comply with all conditions of the required permit. All coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files.
- This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. LA DNR has determined that receipt of federal assistance is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program. Projects within the coastal zone may still require a coastal use permit or other authorization from DNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting LA DNR at 1-800-276-4019.
- The applicant is required to coordinate all construction activities with the local floodplain administrator prior to the start of any activities, and remain in compliance with formally adopted local floodplain ordinances. All coordination pertaining to these permit(s) should be documented to the local floodplain administrator and copies

provided to the State and FEMA as part of the permanent project files. Per 44 CFR 9.11(d)(9), mitigation or minimization standards must be applied, where possible. The replacement of building contents, materials and equipment should be, where possible, wet or dry-proofed, elevated, or relocated to or above the community established base flood elevation. Hazardous materials need to be elevated above the 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood elevation.

- Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act: If human bone or unmarked grave(s) are present with the project area, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two hours of the discovery.
- Inadvertent Discovery Clause: If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their Public Assistance (PA) contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA Historic Preservation (HP) staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA HP completes consultation with the SHPO.
- Project construction would involve the use of potentially hazardous materials (*e.g.*, petroleum products, cement, caustics, acids, solvents, paint, electronic components, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, treated timber) and may result in the generation of small volumes of hazardous wastes. Appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control spills of hazardous materials must be taken and generated hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are required to be disposed in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.
- This project involves the demolition or renovation, of a facility constructed prior to 1978 that may contain surfaces coated with Lead-Based Paint (LBP). The applicant is responsible for complying with the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 402(c)(3) requirements. All coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files.
- If any asbestos containing materials, lead based paint and/or other hazardous materials are found during remediation or repair activities, the applicant shall comply with all federal, state and local abatement and disposal requirements under the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and Louisiana Administrative Code 33:III 5151. Demolition activities related to Possible Asbestos-Containing Materials (PACM) must be inspected for ACM/PACM where it is safe to do so. Should asbestos containing materials (ACM) be present, the applicant is responsible for ensuring proper disposal in accordance with the previously referenced

Administrative Orders. Demolition activity notification must be sent to the LDEQ before work begins. All coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files.

- If hazardous constituents are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during the proposed construction operations, appropriate measures for the proper assessment, remediation and management of the contamination should be initiated in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations.
- Project construction may involve the use of potentially hazardous materials (*e.g.*, petroleum products, cement, caustics, acids, solvents, paint, electronic components, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, treated timber), and may result in the generation of small amounts of hazardous wastes. Appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control spills of hazardous materials must be taken and generated hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are required to be disposed in accordance with applicable Federal, state and local regulations.

Conclusion

The results of these evaluations, as well as consultations and input from other federal and state agencies, are presented in the EA. Based on the information analyzed, FEMA has determined that the implementation of the proposed action would not result in significant adverse impacts to the quality of the natural and human environment. In addition, the proposed project does not appear to have the potential for significant cumulative effects when combined with past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (per 44 CFR Part 10) and the proposed project as described in the EA may proceed.

Public Review and Comment

The EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm. The EA will also be available for public review at the Orleans Parish Main Library at 219 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA. A legal notice will be posted in the local newspaper, *The Times-Picayune*, on the following dates: December 19, 21, 23, 26 and 28, 2012. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and the initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.

Approval:

Katherine Zeringue, Environmental Liaison Officer Date
Louisiana Recovery Office
FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA

Joseph Threat, Acting Director Date
Louisiana Recovery Office
FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA