# Environmental Assessment Emergency Temporary Housing Hurricanes Katrina and Rita FEMA-1603-DR-LA, FEMA 1607-DR-LA Captain Larry's Emergency Temporary Housing Site Belle Chasse, Plaquemines Parish

#### A. Introduction

Hurricane Katrina, a Category 4 hurricane with a storm surge above normal high-tide levels, moved across the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama gulf coasts on August 29, 2005. Maximum sustained winds at landfall were estimated at 140 miles per hour. On September 24, 2005 Hurricane Rita made landfall just east of Sabine Pass, Texas, near the Louisiana border. The storm was a Category 3 hurricane with sustained winds in excess of 120 mph.

President Bush declared a major disaster for Louisiana due to damages from Hurricane Katrina, and signed a disaster declaration (FEMA-1603-DR-LA) on August 29, 2005, authorizing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide federal assistance in designated areas of Louisiana. A second Presidential disaster declaration in response to damages from Hurricane Rita was declared on September 24, 2005. FEMA proposes to administer this federal disaster assistance per the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5206, as amended (Stafford Act). Section 408 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Individual Assistance Program to provide emergency temporary housing for disaster victims whose homes are uninhabitable.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in accordance with the national Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1800), and FEMA's regulations implementing NEPA (44 CFR 10.9). The purpose of this EA is to analyze potential impacts of temporary and transient emergency group housing for disaster victims as part of an expedited review process. 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).

#### **B.** Purpose and Need:

Catastrophic damage has resulted in an extraordinary demand for housing assistance. To date in Plaquemines Parish, approximately 19,761 registrations for Federal assistance have been received. Of these requests, approximately 7,871 have been received from residents of the City of Belle Chasse. There are approximately 1,563 applications for housing assistance at this time for Plaquemines Parish. The specific housing request number for Belle Chasse is not available at this time. The purpose of this action is to help satisfy some of the housing demand.

#### C. Environmental Review Process:

In order to meet the urgent needs of disaster victims in need of temporary housing, FEMA has implemented an expedited environmental review process. The purpose of this document is to assist FEMA in fulfilling its environmental review responsibilities under NEPA and serve as a vehicle to document compliance under other applicable environmental laws. Laws and Executive Orders addressed through this EA include: the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice), and Farmland Protection Policy Act. Expedited agency consultation consisted of establishing a programmatic agreement with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office and an expedited review process with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Other resource areas or issues evaluated in this EA include noise, visual resources, traffic, socioeconomics, safety and security, and hazardous and toxic waste.

The scope of FEMA's environmental review includes evaluating project alternatives, characterizing the affected environment, identifying potential environmental impacts, and outlining ways to reduce or minimize adverse affects. This EA examines the site-specific environmental impacts associated with building a proposed FEMA group housing park.

This EA was prepared based on a site evaluation conducted on October 18, 2005, document research, and agency information. An electronic version of the Draft EA will be provided to interested agencies prior to and during the public comment period. The public participation period will be brief, as necessitated by the emergency circumstances. Agency coordination and consultation will be deemed complete at the end of the public comment period. FEMA believes that this process will allow for sufficient action analysis and meet the goal of providing timely federal assistance to disaster victims.

#### **D. Site Selection and Alternatives Analysis:**

NEPA requires investigation and evaluation of reasonable project alternatives as part of the project environmental review process. Federally assisted housing options, including hotel/rental assistance and locating a travel trailer or mobile home on a private site or in an existing park, are being exhausted first for those requesting housing assistance in Plaquemine Parish. Accordingly, a remaining alternative is to build a group housing site where the above options do not satisfy the demand. In order to expedite the site selection process, FEMA's contractors initially review available aerial photos and maps, conduct site reconnaissance field surveys, and contact state and local officials to identify potential sites. Factors considered in choosing a site include: demand for temporary housing in that area, site topography, property owner willingness, cost, past land use, if it is already planned for development, access to existing utilities, engineering feasibility, and environmental/cultural resource sensitivities. FEMA continues to evaluate alternative sites in Plaquemines Parish, and other parishes within southeast Louisiana. Although various alternatives have been and continue to be identified, the extraordinary amount of needed housing

have limited this EA to analysis of one suitable site alternative at this time. The Captain Larry's site was selected for further analysis because it meets specific site selection criteria.

#### E. Project Location:

The proposed site, known as the Captain Larry's Property, is located behind Captain Larry's Restaurant at 11334 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (Figures 1 and 2). The site is adjacent to Louisiana Highway 23 and 0.43 mile southwest of Walker Road.

#### F. Site Description:

The site consists of approximately 8.54 acres of pasture land southwest of Belle Chasse, Louisiana (Figure 1). This pasture contains non-native or improved grasses, some native and non-native woody vegetation, and volunteer vegetation (ragweed, golden rod, dog finnel, and Johnson grass). The tree species include Chinese tallow, live oak, hackberry, willow, cypress, and pecan. Songbirds, Mourning Dove, and rabbit were observed on site. There is a stream located just beyond the fence line on the northern fringe of the property. The stream is flowing and contains both fish and wetland plant species (bull tongue and smartweed). According to the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) the back part of the property adjacent to the stream is classified as a wetland (PF02T) (USFWS 2005). The site entrance is located on the west side of Louisiana Highway 23 (Coordinates: 29.78164 N / -90.02711 W), which is approximately 0.44 mile southwest of the LA Hwy. 23 and Walker Road intersection. The south and southwestern extent of the property is bound by farm property containing a lake and patch of trees just across the boundary. The north and northwest extent of the property is bound by a forested woodland. The northeast extent of the property is bound by residential properties and the east by LA Hwy. 23.

#### **G. Project Description:**

The project description is based on the site design completed on November 7, 2005 (CH2MHill 2005).

The proposed action would involve the construction of a travel trailer park (hereafter "the Park") which would accommodate approximately 124 travel trailers. At this time, occupancy is not expected to exceed 18 months. During a telephone call on November 14, 2005, Plaquemines Parish Engineer indicated that a park trailer site is compatible with the current zoning for the property. The Parish does not have concerns regarding the Captain Larry's site (Campbell 2005).

Based on the site design (CH2MHill 2005), the following features would be included with this temporary housing site:

- Electrical services would be above ground and connected to existing utilities. Potable water and sewer services would be below ground and connected to existing underground utilities adjacent to the project site.
- A lift station would be installed to maintain the flows in the sewage system.

- The Park would include 24-hour security, and the design plan includes an additional trailer that would be utilized for this purpose.
- Access to the Park would be provided via LA Hwy 23.
- Construction of a circular roadway within the Park.
- Site preparation would include clearing, partial grading, and removal of weeds from drainage ditches, barb wire fence, and two concrete slabs. Existing drainage patterns of the site will be maintained to allow drainage.
- Interior roadways and pads would be constructed of geotextile grade fabric and limestone rock. The American Disability Act (ADA) trailer pads and parking will be placed on 2" asphalt slab with a 6" limestone base.
- The existing trees and shrubs within the site would remain, however; they may be trimmed as needed to allow trailer access.
- A safety fence would be installed between the Park and Hwy 23.

When the temporary housing need has ended, FEMA expects that the travel trailers would be transported from the site to suitable locations elsewhere (to be determined on a case-by-case basis). The Park would then be seeded and restored to previous conditions and/or used by the landowner in a manner consistent with the parish zoning classification.

#### H. Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

Table 1 summarizes the results of the environmental review process. Potential environmental impacts that were found to be negligible are not evaluated further. Resource areas that have the potential for impacts of minor, moderate, or major intensity are further developed in the following Section I. Definitions of the impact intensity are described below:

**Negligible**: The resource area (e.g., geology) would not be affected, or changes would be either non-detectable or if detected, would have effects that would be slight and local. Impacts would be well below regulatory standards, as applicable.

**Minor**: Changes to the resource would be measurable, although the changes would be small and localized. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, as applicable. Mitigation measures would reduce any potential adverse effects.

**Moderate**: Changes to the resource would be measurable and have both localized and regional scale impacts. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, but historical conditions are being altered on a short-term basis. Mitigation measures would be necessary and the measures would reduce any potential adverse effects.

**Major**: Changes would be readily measurable and would have substantial consequences on a local and regional level. Impacts would exceed regulatory standards. Mitigation measures to

Draft Environmental Assessment Captain Larry's Emergency Temporary Housing Site Belle Chasse, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA

offset the adverse effects would be required to reduce impacts, though long-term changes to the resource would be expected.

Table 1. Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences Matrix

Resource Area	Resource Area Impact Intensity		Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation		
	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major		1 0111110	
Geology and Soils	Х				Potential for localized increase in soil erosion during construction.	LAPDES stormwater construction permit to be obtained by construction contractor.	Implement construction BMPs, install silt fences/straw bales to reduce sedimentation. Area soils would be wetted during construction to minimize wind erosion. If fill is stored on site, the contractor would be required to cover it appropriately.
Hydrology and Floodplains (Executive Order 11988)		x			Project area is located in a 100-year floodplain per the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (Panel 2201390045 B) (FEMA 1985). Completion of this EA is consistant with FEMA's 8 Step-Planning Process. Per the 8 Step Planning Process there are limited practicable alternatives to siting temporary housing sites in the floodplain in this parish.	Coordination with the parish floodplain administrator to ensure compliance with the NFIP as administered in the local floodplain ordinance including issuance of appropriate permitting. To be coordinated by construction contractor.	This site is located in the floodplain and must accordingly comply with the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program as outlined in 44 CFR Part 60.
Wetlands (Executive Order 11990)	х				Wetlands were observed at the project site during the site reconnaissance and were noted on the USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps (USGS 2005). These wetlands were delineated on 11/4/05.	Communication with USACE Regulatory on 11/10/05.	These wetlands will be avoided during the construction of the Park. A culvert and road crossing will be placed across a non-jurisdictional portion of a ditch.
Coastal Zone Management	Х				Project site is located within the boundaries of the Coastal Zone. This site is used as a pasture for cattle. No impacts to the Louisiana Coastal Zone.	Communication with Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Coastal Management Division on 9/21/05	Joint Permit not required as the project would avoid wetlands and is well above any tidal influence. Project would be compatible with the general consistency authorization agreement. No further consultation with DNR required.

Resource Area		Impact I	ntensity		Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation	
	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major		Permits		
Water Quality	X				Potential for localized increase in sedimentation during construction.	LAPDES stormwater construction permits to be obtained by construction contractor.	Contractor to implement requirements of LAPDES stormwater construction permit. Implement construction BMPs, install silt fences/straw bales to reduce sedimentation	
Air Quality	X				Parish is in attainment for criteria pollutants per the Clean Air Act. Negligible impact would be anticipated from vehicle exhaust emissions and increased dust during construction.	EPA Regional 6 Designation.	Area soils would be covered and/or wetted during construction to minimize dust. Rock cover for roads and housing pads would be wetted and/or treated periodically with a commercially available product approved for use in residential areas to minimize dust particles.	
Vegetation and Wildlife		х			Site is pasture with of non-native or improved grasses and woody vegetation. See Section I.		Once the temporary housing need has ended, the site would be seeded and restored to previous conditions and/or used by the landowner in a manner consistent with the county zoning	
Threatened and Endangered Species (Endangered Species Act Section 7)		х			Due to the presence of potential habitat for bald eagles, USFWS was contacted regarding potential impacts to threatened and endangered species.	USFWS determination of may effect, not likely to adversely affect. (11/7/05).		
Cultural Resources (National Historic Preservation Act Section 106)		x			No impact to historic properties or resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places is anticipated. Phase I archeological survey completed between 11/09/05 and 11/11/05.	SHPO concurrence on no effect determination 11/15/05.	If unanticipated historic or cultural materials are discovered during construction, all construction activities shall immediately cease within 100 feet of the materials until their cultural affiliation and ultimate disposition are determined in consultation with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer and other interested parties.	

Resource Area			Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation		
	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major		remins	
Socioeconomics		x			Park occupancy is expected to be about 310 people (124 units x estimated 2.5 people per unit). The local community would experience an increase in the need for public services, such as schools, fire, police, and medical care for Park residents who are displaced from other communities. Commercial facilities, such as grocery stores, would also experience an increase in customers during Park occupancy. Also see Section I.	Parish Engineer contacted on November 14, 2005 regarding the need for additional community services. The Parish Engineer stated that the Parish approves this trailer site.	
Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898)	Х				The proposed action is not expected to pose disproportionately high and adverse public health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. Also see Section I.		See Section I.
Noise		x			During the construction period (approximately 21 days), residents immediately adjacent to the project site would experience an increase in noise levels. The vehicles from Park occupants would also increase the level of vehicular noise in the area.		If necessary, the following noise reduction measures should be considered: (1) restricting the 24-hour schedule to the first two weeks of construction; (2) using a 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. construction schedule; (3) completing construction closest to adjoining residents first; and (4) completing noisier activities during the day if a 24-hour schedule is used.
Safety and Security	X				No impact anticipated.		The contractor would place fencing between the site and LA Hwy. 23 to prevent access to the Hwy by children. The contractor would provide 24-hour security. The contractor would post appropriate signage and fencing to minimize potential adverse public safety concerns. Appropriate signage and barriers should be in place prior to construction activities in order to alert pedestrians and motorists of project activities and traffic pattern changes.

Resource Area	Impact Intensity				Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
	Negligible Minor Moderate Major		Major		i emits		
Hazardous Materials and Toxic Wastes	Х				A search of hazardous materials databases was completed on October 18, 2005. No hazardous materials concerns were found at this site.		All debris located on the project site would be removed and disposed of by the construction contractor prior to occupancy.
Traffic and Transportation		х			Traffic volumes along Hwy. 23 would increase during Park construction and occupancy. The existing infrastructure would be able to accommodate these increases without impacting local traffic.	Parish Engineer contacted on 11/14/05.	

#### I. Additional Impact Analysis

#### Wetlands (Executive Order 11990)

Jurisdictional wetlands are present on northwest portion of the property. These wetlands were delineated by the U.S. Army Corps of engineers on November 4, 2005 and a copy of the wetland location given to the contractor. This wetland would be avoided during the construction of the temporary housing (trailer) site. A culvert and road crossing would be placed across a ditch located in the middle of the property. This portion of the ditch not jurisdictional waters of the U.S. (Windham 2005).

#### Vegetation and Wildlife

The project site is approximately 30- acres of grassed pasture. This pasture contains cultivated non-native or improved grasses and volunteer vegetation (ragweed, golden rod, dog finnel, and Johnson grass). The site is sparsely populated with some native and non-native woody vegetation. The tree species on the site include Chinese tallow, live oak, hackberry, willow, cypress, and pecan. Songbirds, Mourning Dove, and rabbit were observed on the site. There is a stream located just beyond the fence line on the northern fringe of the property. The stream is flowing and contains both fish and wetland plant species (bull tongue and smartweed).

The site would be prepared by clearing and partial grading, weed removal from drainage ditches and disposed of on-site, and existing barbwire fencing, and concrete slabs removed. The interior roads and trailer pads would be covered with geotextile grade fabric and limestone rock. Minor impact to approximately 8.54 acres of vegetation would be anticipated with this action. Wildlife in the project area would be expected to relocate to nearby areas until the action has ended. When the need for temporary housing has ended, the site would be seeded and restored to previous conditions and/or used by the landowner in a manner consistent with parish zoning classification.

#### Threatened and endangered Species (Endangered Species Act Section 7)

Due to the presence of potential bald eagle habitat within 1,500 of the project site, USFWS was contacted regarding potential impacts to threatened and endangered species. USFWS determined that the proposed project may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect these resources. Construction of temporary housing would increase noise and other human disturbances in the area. However, these disturbances are already present with the homes to the north, and restaurant and homes to the east of the site. Therefore, it is unlikely that the construction of temporary housing would impact the bald eagle.

#### **Cultural Resources**

Per National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 review for the Park there was a reasonable potential for historic properties to be present within the project area. Accordingly, on October 24, 2005 FEMA requested initial consultation with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and recommended conducting a Phase I Survey to better define potential historic properties that might be impacted by the project. SHPO concurred and on November 9-11, 2005, the survey was completed. Results are found in

"Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archeological Inventory of a 6.07 ha (15 ac) Proposed Temporary Housing Area No. PL-14 Captain Larry's Site, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana" (Goodwin & Associates, Inc., New Orleans, 2005), see appendix 3. The management summary for the Phase I study reported a total of three modern/historic isolated cultural resources loci were identified and delineated. All cultural resources loci were determined to be modern/historic deposits mixed with the modern debris and fill noted throughout the proposed temporary housing site. The three loci lack research potential and do not possess the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]) and no additional work is recommended. Based on the results of the Phase I Survey presented above, FEMA has determined that temporary housing undertaking at the Park would have no adverse effect on historic properties.

#### **Socioeconomics**

The project site is located southwest of the city of Belle Chasse, which has 9,848 residents, and 3,561 housing units. The median household income is estimated at about \$47,271 (based on 1999 Census) (Census 2005). The primary employment sectors (about 50 percent of all jobs) are educational, health, and social services; professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services; retail trade; and manufacturing. According to the 2000 census, about 3 percent of the Belle Chasse civilian labor force is unemployed (Census 2005). A small low-income, minority neighborhood consisting of mobile homes and houses is located to the north of this Park.

With the establishment of the Park, up to about 310 residents would be temporarily relocating to the Belle Chasse area (124 units x estimated 2.5 people per unit), although some of these potential residents may be residents of the area currently displaced from their homes. The local community is aware of this action and would experience an increase in the need for public services, such as schools, fire and police services, child care, and medical services. During a telephone call on November14, 2005, the Parish Engineer indicated that the Parish fully supports this trailer site.

Commercial facilities, such as grocery stores, would also experience an increase in customers during Park occupancy. Shopping centers are located near the project site and should have sufficient capacity to accommodate Park residents.

#### Traffic and Transportation.

The project site is located adjacent to State Highway (Hwy.) 23, southwest of Walker Road. No traffic lights are located on Hwy 23 at this location. Traffic within the general project area would increase due to the ingress and egress of construction equipment. This traffic impact would be short-term and limited to the duration of construction. Traffic volumes would also increase due to the addition of vehicles used by Park residents. The increase in traffic volume would depend on such factors as the number of residents'

vehicles and the number of trips per day. State Highway 23 would be able to support this increase.

#### Noise

Noise levels within the project area would increase during construction of the project due to construction activities. Construction noise impacts would be short-term and limited to the duration of construction activities (about 21 days). Due to the urgency of the situation, construction would occur on a 24-hour schedule until the Park is completed. If necessary, noise reduction measures would be instituted. These measures could include: restricting the 24-hour construction schedule to the five days of construction, using a 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. construction schedule, completing construction closest to adjoining resident first, and/or completing noisier activities during the day if using a 24-hour schedule.

#### J. References

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 1985. Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Community Panel 2201390045 B. Revised May 1.
- CH2MHill. 2005. Site Design for Captain Larry's Temporary Housing Site. October 31.
- Campbell, Emily. 2005. Personal communication, Plaquemines Parish Engineer. November 14, 2005.
- U.S. Bureau of the Census (Census). 2005. American Factfinder. <a href="http://www.census.gov">http://www.census.gov</a>. Website accessed November 5.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2005. Wetlands Online Mapper. <a href="http://wetlandsfws.er.usgs.gov/wtlnds/launch.html">http://wetlandsfws.er.usgs.gov/wtlnds/launch.html</a>. Website accessed October 11.
- Windham, Mike. 2005. Personal communication. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Office. November 10, 2005.

#### **K.** Public Involvement

A Public Notice was published in the New Orleans Times-Picayune between November 17 through 19, 2005. Due to the emergency nature of this action, the public comment period will be brief – November 17 to November 19, 2005. Written comments on the Draft EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can be faxed to FEMA's Joint Field Office in Baton Rouge at (225) 346-5848; and verbal comments will be accepted at (225) 376-5137 and TTY for hearing or speech-impaired at 800-462-7585; between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. The Draft EA and FONSI are available for public review at the Belle Chasse Branch, Plaquemines Parish Library, 8442 Hwy. 23, Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037 and the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) located at Belle Chasse Auditorium, 8938 Hwy. 23, Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037. The library hours are 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; and 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM, Saturdays. The DRC hours are 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday through Saturday. The Draft EA and FONSI are also made available for viewing and download from FEMA's website at http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtm. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and 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.

#### L. Figures

Figure 1: Project Location Figure 2: Site Location Figure 3: Photographs

#### Appendix 1. <u>Hazardous Materials Database Search</u>

#### Appendix 2. Finding of No Significant Impact

Appendix 3. Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archeological Inventory

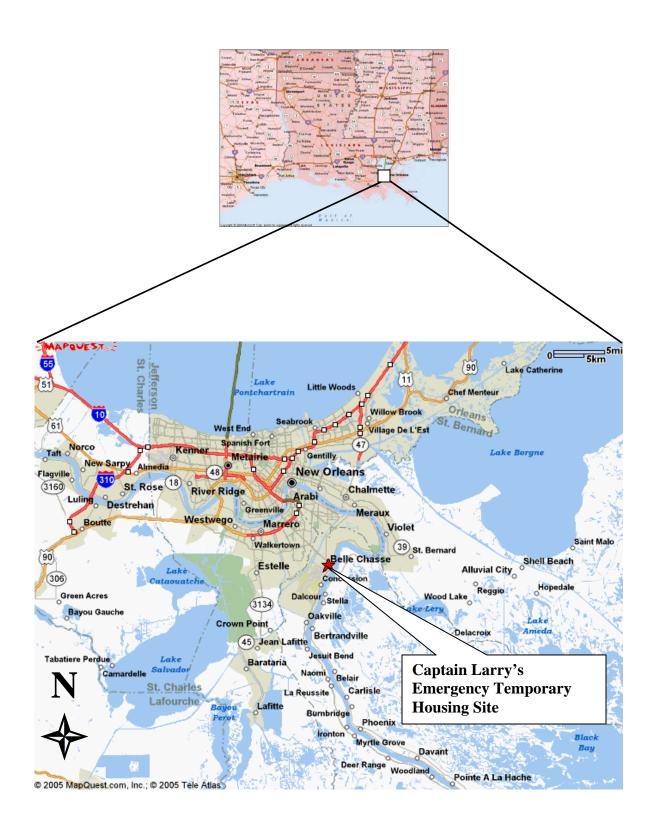


FIGURE 1:
PROJECT LOCATION
CAPTAIN LARRY'
EMERGENCY TEMPORARY HOUSING SITE
BELLE CHASSE, LOUISIANA

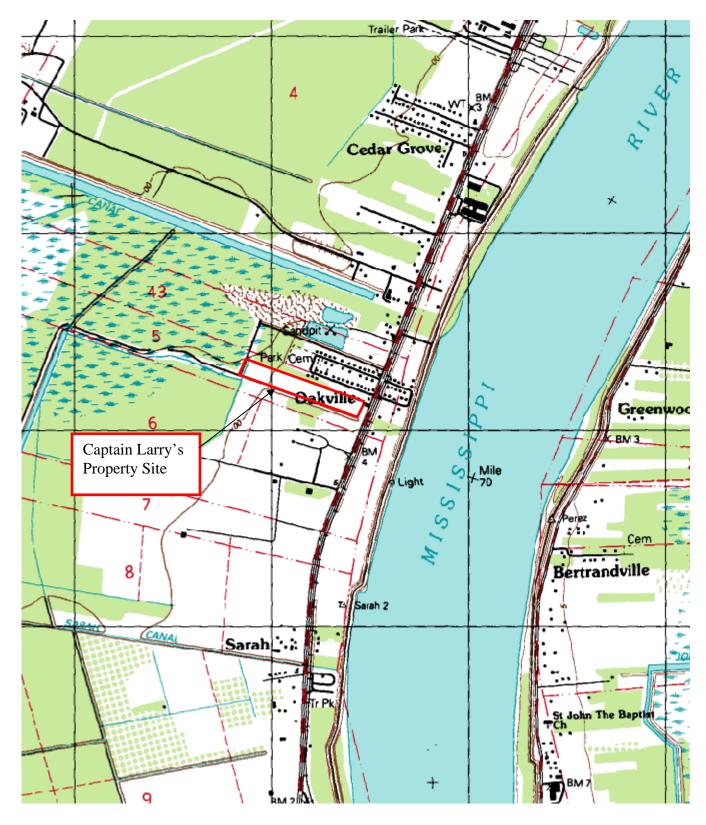


FIGURE 2: SITE LOCATION CAPTIAN LARRY'S EMERGENCY TEMPORARY HOUSING SITE BELLE CHASSE, LOUISIANA

Figure 3:
Site Topography and Vegetation
Captain Larry's Emergency Temporary Housing Site
Belle Chasse, Louisiana





Pictures of typical vegetation at site

## InfoMap Technologies Incorporated

### **Environmental FirstSearch** Report

TARGET PROPERTY:

11334 SR-23

**BELLE CHASSE LA 70037** 

Job Number: 15702422

#### PREPARED FOR:

URS Corp./FEMA

415 N. 15th Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

PL-14 Captian Larry's

Plaquemines Parish

10-18-05



Tel: (610) 430-7530 Fax: (610) 430-7535

#### Environmental FirstSearch Search Summary Report

**Target Site:** 11334 SR-23

BELLE CHASSE LA 70037

#### FirstSearch Summary

Database	Sel	Updated	Radius	Site	1/8	1/4	1/2	1/2>	ZIP	TOTALS	
NPL	Y	05-17-05	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	_					-		U		•	
CERCLIS	Y	08-01-05	0.50	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	
NFRAP	Y	08-01-05	0.25	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	
RCRA TSD	Y	09-22-05	0.50	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	
RCRA COR	Y	09-22-05	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
RCRA GEN	Y	06-13-05	0.25	0	1	0	-	-	0	1	
ERNS	Y	12-31-04	0.15	0	0	0	-	-	1	1	
State Sites	Y	NA	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Spills-1990	Y	NA	0.25	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	
SWL	Y	01-01-99	0.50	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	
REG UST/AST	Y	11-12-03	0.25	0	0	0	-	-	1	1	
Leaking UST	Y	03-26-99	0.50	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	
- TOTALS -				0	1	0	0	0	2	3	

#### **Notice of Disclaimer**

Due to the limitations, constraints, inaccuracies and incompleteness of government information and computer mapping data currently available to InfoMap Technologies, certain conventions have been utilized in preparing the locations of all federal, state and local agency sites residing in InfoMap Technologies's databases. All EPA NPL and state landfill sites are depicted by a rectangle approximating their location and size. The boundaries of the rectangles represent the eastern and western most longitudes; the northern and southern most latitudes. As such, the mapped areas may exceed the actual areas and do not represent the actual boundaries of these properties. All other sites are depicted by a point representing their approximate address location and make no attempt to represent the actual areas of the associated property. Actual boundaries and locations of individual properties can be found in the files residing at the agency responsible for such information.

#### Waiver of Liability

Although InfoMap Technologies uses its best efforts to research the actual location of each site, InfoMap Technologies does not and can not warrant the accuracy of these sites with regard to exact location and size. All authorized users of InfoMap Technologies's services proceeding are signifying an understanding of InfoMap Technologies's searching and mapping conventions, and agree to waive any and all liability claims associated with search and map results showing incomplete and or inaccurate site locations.

#### Environmental FirstSearch Site Information Report

Request Date:10-18-05Search Type:COORDRequestor Name:Laurel RohrerJob Number:15702422

Standard: ASTM Filtered Report

**TARGET ADDRESS:** 11334 SR-23

BELLE CHASSE LA 70037

#### **Demographics**

Sites: 3 Non-Geocoded: 2 Population: NA

**Radon:** -0.3 - 1.4 PCI/L

#### Site Location

	<b>Degrees (Decimal)</b>	Degrees (Min/Sec)		<u>UTMs</u>
Longitude:	-90.02711	-90:1:38	<b>Easting:</b>	787425.578
Latitude:	29.78164	29:46:54	Northing:	3298116.406
			Zone:	15

#### Comment

Comment: PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS

#### Additional Requests/Services

	Requested?	Date
Sanborns	No	
Aerial Photographs	No	
Topographical Maps	No	
City Directories	No	
Title Search	No	
Municipal Reports	No	
Online Topos	No	
	Aerial Photographs Topographical Maps City Directories Title Search Municipal Reports	Sanborns No Aerial Photographs No Topographical Maps No City Directories No Title Search No Municipal Reports No

#### Environmental FirstSearch Sites Summary Report

**JOB:** 15702422 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS **TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23

BELLE CHASSE LA 70037

TOTAL: 3 **GEOCODED:** 1 NON GEOCODED: 2 **SELECTED:** 0

Page No.	ID	DB Type	Site Name/ID/Status	Address	Dist/Dir	Map ID
1	1	RCRAGN	DEAN EQUIPMENT INC LA0000929729/VGN	11322 HWY 23 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037	0.08 NE	1

#### Environmental FirstSearch Sites Summary Report

**JOB:** 15702422 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS **TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23

BELLE CHASSE LA 70037

TOTAL: 3 **GEOCODED:** 1 NON GEOCODED: 2 **SELECTED:** 0

Page No.	ID	DB Type	Site Name/ID/Status	Address	Dist/Dir	Map ID
2	2	ERNS	DUPRE TRANSPORT 616192/HIGHWAY RELATED	HIGHWAY 23 SOUTH, NEAR NAVA BELLE CHASSE LA	NON GC	
3	3	UST	DAIGLE S QUICK STOP 38-013360	HIGHWAY 23 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037	NON GC	

**JOB:** 15702422 **TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS

RCRA GENERATOR SITE

**DIST/DIR:** SEARCH ID: 1 0.08 NE MAP ID: 1

NAME: DEAN EQUIPMENT INC REV: 9/22/05 **ADDRESS:** 11322 HWY 23

LA0000929729 ID1: BELLE CHASSE LA 70037 ID2:

STATUS: VGN **CONTACT:** TROY WILLIAMS PHONE: 5046562009

**SITE INFORMATION** 

TROY WILLIAMS CONTACT INFORMATION:

PO BOX 593

BELLE CHASSE LA 70037

PHONE: 5046562009

**UNIVERSE INFORMATION:** 

SNC: N - NO **BOYSNC:** N - NO **GPRA PERMIT:** N-NO **GPRA POSTCLOSURE:** N - NO GPRA CA: N - NO N - NO **GPRA CME: PERM PROG:** 

PREM WRKLD: **CLOSURE WRKLD:** P C WRKLD: SUBJCA: N - NO SUBJCA TSD 3004: N - NO SUBJCA NON TSD: N - NO

CA WRKLD: N - NO

 ${\sf CEG-CONDITIONALLY\,EXEMPT\,SMALL\,QUANTITY\,GENERATORS:\,GENERATES\,LESS\,THAN}$ **GEN STATUS:** 

100 KG/MONTH OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

NAIC INFORMATION

811111 - GENERAL AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

**ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION:** 

VIOLATION INFORMATION:

HAZARDOUS WASTE INFORMATION:

Ignitable waste

**TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23 **JOB:** 15702422 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS

EMERGENCY RESPONSE NOTIFICATION SITE

SEARCH ID: 2 DIST/DIR: NON GC MAP ID:

NAME: DUPRE TRANSPORT REV: 3/2/99 ADDRESS: HIGHWAY 23 SOUTH, NEAR NAVAL BASE ID1: 616192

HIGHWAY 23 SOUTH, NEAR NAVAL BASE ID1: 616192
BELLE CHASSE LA ID2:

PLAQUEMINES STATUS: HIGHWAY RELATED CONTACT: PHONE:

SPILL INFORMATION

**DATE OF SPILL:** 3/2/99 **TIME OF SPILL:** 1220

PRODUCT RELEASED (1): OIL: DIESEL

**QUANTITY (1):** 40 **UNITS (1):** GAL

PRODUCT RELEASED (2):

QUANTITY (2): UNITS (2):

PRODUCT RELEASED (3):

QUANTITY (3): UNITS (3):

MEDIUM/MEDIA AFFECTED

AIR: NO GROUNDWATER: NO LAND: YES FIXED FACILITY: NO WATER: NO OTHER: NO

WATERBODY AFFECTED BY RELEASE: HIGHWAY

CAUSE OF RELEASE

DUMPING:NOEQUIPMENT FAILURE:NONATURAL PHENOMENON:NOOPERATOR ERROR:NOOTHER CAUSE:NOTRANSP. ACCIDENT:YES

UNKNOWN: NO

ACTIONS TAKEN: CONTRACTORS ON SITE

RELEASE DETECTION: SEMI TRUCK, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT SEMI TRUCK, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT

MISC. NOTES: 2 SOUTHBOUND LANES CLOSED, UNKNOIWN WHEN THE LANES WILL BE OPEN, DRIVER OF THE TRUCK

INJURED

DISCHARGER INFORMATION

DISCHARGER ID: 616192 DUN & BRADSTREET #:

TYPE OF DISCHARGER: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE NAME OF DISCHARGER: DUPRE TRANSPORT

ADDRESS: 201 ENERGY PARKWAY, SUITE 500

PLAQUEMINES LA 70508-

**JOB:** 15702422 **TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS BELLE CHASSE LA 70037

REGISTERED UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

**SEARCH ID:** 3 **DIST/DIR:** NON GC **MAP ID:** 

NAME: DAIGLE S QUICK STOP REV: 08/23/03 ADDRESS: HIGHWAY 23 ID1: 38-013360

BELLE CHASSE LA 70037 ID2:

STATUS:

CONTACT: JUDY STIPELCOVICH PHONE: (504) 657-7463

OWNER INFORMATION

OWNER ID NUMBER: 00536200

OWNER NAME: ESTATE OF GLEN J. STIPELCOVICH

OWNER ADDRESS: HIGHWAY 11 & CAZAZUE

**BURAS LA 70041** 

OWNER PARISH: **PLAQUEMINES** PHONE: 504-657-7463

TANK INFORMATION

TANK NUMBER: 38653

TEMPORARILY OUT OF USE: PERMANENTLY OUT OF USE:

TANK INSTALLED DATE: 86/05/01 4000 GALLONS TANK CAPACITY:

TANK CONTENTS

**EMPTY:** DIESEL:

KEROSENE: GAS: **USED OIL: HAZARDOUS:** 

MIXTURE: UNKNOWN: OTHER:

MATERIAL(S) OF CONSTRUCTION STEEL: **CONCRETE:** 

FIBERGLASS: UNKNOWN: OTHER:

INTERNAL TANK PROTECTION INFORMATION

**CATHODIC PROTECTION:** LINED:

**UNKNOWN:** NONE: OTHER:

EXTERNAL TANK PROTECTION

**CATHODIC PROTECTION:** PAINTED:

FIBERGLASS: NONE:

UNKNOWN:

OTHER:

PIPING INFORMATION

GALVANIZED STEEL: STEEL:

FIBERGLASS: CATHODIC PROTECTION: UNKNOWN:

OTHER:

TANK NUMBER: 38654

TEMPORARILY OUT OF USE: PERMANENTLY OUT OF USE:

- Continued on next page -

**TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23 **JOB:** 15702422 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS

EARCH ID: 3	DIST/DIR:	NON GC	MAP ID:
ME: DAIGLE S QUICK STOP DDRESS: HIGHWAY 23 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037		REV: ID1: ID2: STATUS:	08/23/03 38-013360
ONTACT: JUDY STIPELCOVICH		PHONE:	(504) 657-7463
NK INSTALLED DATE: NK CAPACITY:	86/05/01 4000 GALLONS		
<u>NK CONTENTS</u> IPTY:		DIESEL:	
CROSENE:	•	GAS:	Y
D OIL:	•	HAZARDOUS:	
FURE: ER:		UNKNOWN:	•
ERIAL(S) OF CONSTRUCTION			
EL: ERGLASS:	•	CONCRETE: UNKNOWN:	•
ER:		UNKNOWN.	•
ERNAL TANK PROTECTION INFO	RMATION		
THODIC PROTECTION:	•	LINED:	
NOWN: ER:		NONE:	
ERNAL TANK PROTECTION			
THODIC PROTECTION:	•	PAINTED:	
RGLASS: NOWN:	·	NONE:	•
HER:	•		
NG INFORMATION			
EL:	•	GALVANIZED STE	
RGLASS: NOWN:	•	CATHODIC PROTE	LCHUN: .
ER:	•		

## Environmental FirstSearch Street Name Report for Streets within .25 Mile(s) of Target Property

**TARGET SITE:** 11334 SR-23 **JOB:** 15702422 BELLE CHASSE LA 70037 PL-14 CAPTAIN LARRYS

Street Name	Dist/Dir	Street Name	Dist/Dir
Cemetary Rd	0.19 NW		
E Oakville St	0.13 NE		
E St Peter St	0.13 NE 0.08 NE		
EAST Oakville St	0.08 NE 0.13 NE		
EAST St Peter St	0.13 NE 0.08 NE		
	0.06 NE 0.04 SE		
Highway 23 Levee Rd	0.04 SE 0.14 NE		
W Oakville St	0.14 NE 0.12 NE		
W St Peter St	0.12 NE 0.07 NE		
WEST Oakville St	0.07 NE 0.12 NE		
WEST St Peter St	0.12 NE 0.07 NE		
WEST STICKES	U.U/ INE		



#### **Environmental FirstSearch**

1 Mile Radius ASTM Map: NPL, RCRACOR, STATE Sites



#### 11334 SR-23 , BELLE CHASSE LA 70037



#### Source: 2002 U.S. Census TIGER Files

Black Rings Represent 1/4 Mile Radii; Red Ring Represents 500 ft. Radius



#### **Environmental FirstSearch**

.5 Mile Radius ASTM Map: CERCLIS, RCRATSD, LUST, SWL



#### 11334 SR-23 , BELLE CHASSE LA 70037



#### Source: 2002 U.S. Census TIGER Files

Black Rings Represent 1/4 Mile Radii; Red Ring Represents 500 ft. Radius

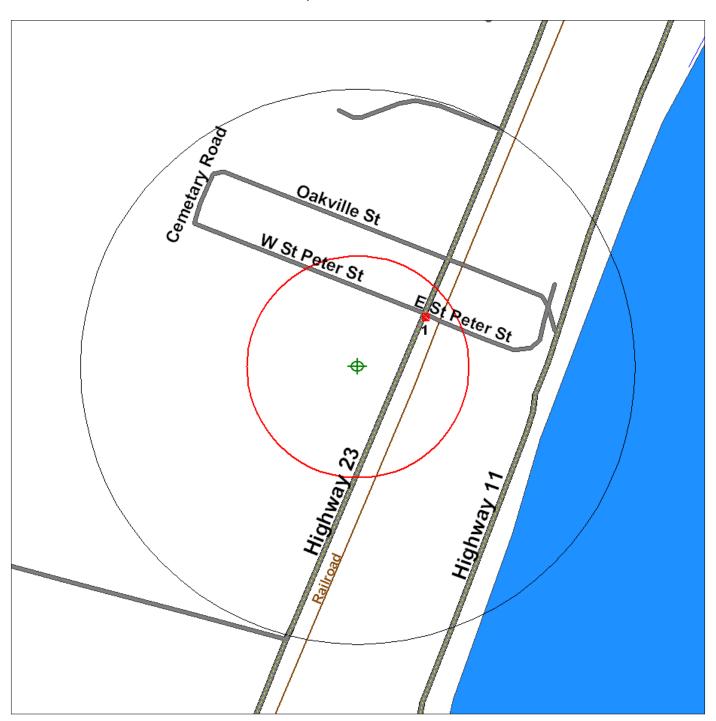


#### **Environmental FirstSearch**

.25 Mile Radius ASTM Map: RCRAGEN, ERNS, UST



#### 11334 SR-23 , BELLE CHASSE LA 70037



#### Source: 2002 U.S. Census TIGER Files

Black Rings Represent 1/4 Mile Radii; Red Ring Represents 500 ft. Radius

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Joint Field Office FEMA-1603-DR-LA 415 N 15<sup>th</sup> Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802



# Draft FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT EMERGENCY TEMPORARY HOUSING PROJECT CAPTAIN LARRY'S TEMPORARY HOUSING SITE, PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA FEMA-1603-DR-LA, FEMA-1607-DR-LA

As a result of damages from Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was authorized under two Presidential disaster declarations (FEMA-1603-DR-LA; FEMA-1607-DR-LA) to provide Federal assistance to designated disaster areas in Louisiana. Section 408 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Individual Assistance (IA) Program to provide emergency temporary housing for disaster victims whose homes are uninhabitable. There are insufficient rental units available to house displaced disaster victims. The use of hotel rooms, shelters, or staying with family/friends is only appropriate for a very limited time period. In response to this need, FEMA is proposing to build emergency disaster group housing for residents in Plaquemines Parish.

In order to implement its IA Program in a timely and effective manner, FEMA proposed an expedited process to assess the potential environmental impacts of building emergency temporary housing for displaced disaster victims. An Environmental Assessment (EA), dated November 16, 2005 was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and FEMA regulations for NEPA compliance (44 CFR Part 10). The EA's purpose is to analyze and document the proposed alternative's potential environmental impacts, serve as a vehicle to document compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The EA is hereby incorporated by reference.

The proposed site is located behind Captain Larry's Restaurant at 11334 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana and covers approximately 8.54 acres. FEMA contractors have been tasked with constructing a new park trailer park (hereafter "Park") of approximately 124 units on land to be leased by General Service Administration. At this time, Park occupancy is expected to not exceed 18 months. New utilities would be installed, including connecting potable water, sanitary sewer, a package sewage lift station, and electrical service to existing infrastructure. Access to the Park would be provided via LA Highway 23. Site preparation would include clearing and partial grading; weed removal from drainage ditches, and existing barbwire fencing and concrete slabs removed. Geotextile grade fabric and gravel would be used for the interior roadways and trailer pads. The American Disability Act (ADA) trailer pads and parking would be placed on a 2" asphalt slab with a 6" limestone base. A safety fence would be installed and maintained between the Park and Highway 23, and 24-hour security would be provided. When the temporary housing need has ended, FEMA expects that the trailers would be hauled from the site, to suitable locations elsewhere (to be determined on case-by-

FEMA-1603-DR-LA; FEMA-1607-DR-LA Captain Larry's Temporary Housing Site Finding of No Significant Impact November 16, 2005 Page 2

case basis). The Park site would then be seeded and restored to previous conditions and/or used by the landowner in a manner consistent with county zoning classification.

#### **FINDINGS**

FEMA has made the following determinations from the information contained in the Captain Larry's Temporary Housing Project EA:

The above described action would not result in any significant adverse impacts related to geology and soils; hydrology and floodplains; wetlands and jurisdictional waters of the U.S.; water quality; air quality; vegetation and wildlife; state and federally listed threatened and endangered species; cultural resources; socioeconomics (including minority and low income populations); safety and security; hazardous materials and toxic wastes; and traffic and transportation. The proposed alternative has been reviewed and, to the best of our knowledge, does not have the potential for significant cumulative effects when combined with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions in accordance with 44 CFR Part 10.8 (d)(3)(x).

The following summarizes what is outlined in the mitigation column of Table 1 of the EA and are the conditions that must be met as part of implementing this proposed action alternative:

- 1. Use of best management practices (e.g., installation of silt fences and straw bales) would be required to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation. If fill is stored on site, the contractor is required to appropriately cover it to prevent erosion.
- 2. Construction contractor would be required to apply for and obtain all applicable stormwater construction permits, including a LAPDES permit or waiver from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.
- 3. Existing drainage patterns would remain for stormwater runoff.
- 4. Construction contractor would be required to apply for and obtain a floodplain development permit.
- 5. Area soils would be covered and/or wetted during construction to minimize dust.
- 6. Wetlands located at rear of the property would be avoided.
- 7. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, if unanticipated historic or cultural materials are discovered during construction, all construction activities shall immediately cease within 100 feet of the materials until their cultural affiliation and ultimate disposition are determined in consultation with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer and other interested parties.
- 8. If necessary, the following noise reduction measures should be considered: (1) restricting the 24-hour schedule to the first two weeks of construction; (2) using a 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. construction schedule; (3) completing construction closest to adjoining residents first; and (4) completing noisier activities during the day if a 24-hour schedule is used.

FEMA-1603-DR-LA; FEMA-1607-DR-LA Captain Larry's Temporary Housing Site Finding of No Significant Impact November 16, 2005 Page 3

- 9. If any hazardous materials are found during construction or Park occupation, all hazardous materials shall be remediated, abated, or disposed of as appropriate, and otherwise handled in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- 10. The contractor would place fencing between the site and Highway 23, and provide for 24-hour security services at the Park.
- 11. Contractor would coordinate with Parish Public Works Director to ensure traffic infrastructure can service the increased traffic volume. The contractor and Parish would implement traffic control measures, as necessary.
- 12. The contractor would post appropriate signage and fencing to minimize potential adverse public safety concerns. Appropriate signage and barriers should be in place prior to construction activities in order to alert pedestrians and motorists of project activities and traffic pattern changes.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

APPROVAL:

Based upon the incorporated EA, and in accordance with Presidential Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice), 11988 (Floodplain Management), and 11990 (Wetland Protection), FEMA has determined that the proposed action implemented with the conditions and mitigation measures outlined above and in the EA would not have any significant adverse effects on the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.8) and the proposed action alternative as described in the EA may proceed.

# Don Fairley Environmental Liaison Officer FEMA- DR-LA 1603/1607 Stephen DeBlasio Housing Area Command FEMA- DR-LA 1603/1607 Scott Wells Federal Coordinating Officer FEMA- DR-LA 1603/1607

FEMA-1603-DR-LA; FEMA-1607-DR-LA
Captain Larry's Temporary Housing Site
Finding of No Significant Impact
November 16, 2005
Page 4

C	$\bigcup N$	C	UR	•
U	$\omega$		$\sigma$	

Scott Armey Regional Administrator General Services Administration

Date

#### R. CHRISTOPHER GOODWIN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

cultural resource management and preservation planning

November 13, 2005 Dr. Edwin A. Lyon U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District P.O. Box 60627 New Orleans. Louisiana 70160

Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archeological Inventory of a 6.07 ha (15 ac) Proposed Temporary Housing Area No. PL-14 Captain Larry's Site, Plaquemine Parish, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lyon:

Re:

The purpose of this management summary is to provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District with an update on the progress made toward completing the Phase I cultural resources survey and archeological inventory of the above-referenced project item. Fieldwork for this investigation was completed between November 9 and November 11, 2005 by personnel from R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. All work was performed in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; and *Louisiana's Comprehensive Archaeological Plan* (Smith et al. 1983).

The proposed project includes the placement of temporary housing trailers and associated underground utilities. The temporary housing area is located off Highway 23 approximately 0.8 km (0.5 mi) south of the township of Oakville in Plaquemine Parish, Louisiana nearly 250 m (820 ft) west of the Mississippi River at River Mile 70.0. The Area of Potential Effect associated with the proposed project item is situated to the southwest of Captain Larry's Restaurant, and south of an existing trailer park and ball field (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed temporary housing area measures approximately 500 m (1,640 ft) in length by 120 m (393.6 ft) in width, totaling approximately 6.07 ha (15 ac) in size, and consists of an open grassy cattle pasture with limited Oak and Pecan trees (Figure 3).

To date, work associated with this Phase I cultural resources survey and archeological inventory has included a preliminary historical research and records review within the vicinity of the proposed project item; the identification of all previously recorded archeological sites and historic period standing structures situated within 0.8 km (0.5 mi) of the above-referenced Area of Potential Effect; and the execution of the requested Phase I cultural resources survey and archeological inventory of the proposed temporary housing area. This document summarizes the results of this undertaking to date.

Pursuant to the Programmatic Agreement in effect between FEMA, SHPO, LOHSEP, and ACHP, FEMA has conducted a site visit to the proposed project area, performed a records search of archeological sites, surveys, and historic maps on file in the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and State Library, and searched the database of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for Orleans Parish. The field visit yielded no new archeological site discoveries. However, a search of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology database revealed at least seven previously recorded historic properties situated within 0.8 km (0.5 mi) of the

858 Blountstown Highway, Suite D Tallahassee, Florida 32304

(850) 575-0565 Fax (850) 576-4629 www.rcgoodwin.com

New Orleans, Louisiana Frederick, Maryland Tallahassee, Florida

proposed project area, including PL-89, PL-114, PL-115, PL-116, PL-124, PL-128, and PL-129. All of the previously recorded sites are historic and associated with 19<sup>th</sup> century plantations. Site PL-115 is located immediately adjacent to the project area. Also known as the Idlewild Plantation Site, Site PL-115 was an antebellum to post-Civil War sugar cane and rice plantation. No determination has been made for the site's eligibility for listing on the NRHP (Correspondence from FEMA to Pam Breaux, State Historic Preservation Officer dated October 24, 2005).

#### Field Methods

Following completion of the background research and site visit, a Phase I cultural resources survey and archeological inventory of the proposed project item was completed. The purpose of this investigation was to identify all cultural resources located within or immediately adjacent to the proposed temporary housing area, and to assess their eligibility applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). Fieldwork for this investigation consisted of intensive pedestrian survey augmented by systematic shovel testing throughout the Area of Potential Effect.

During survey, shovel tests were excavated at 30 m (98.4 ft) intervals along survey transects spaced 30 m (98.4 ft) apart (Figure 2). Shovel tests positioned along adjacent transects were offset to maximize coverage of the area. This cultural resources investigation was limited to the overall project area (i.e., no shovel tests were excavated outside of the Area of Potential Effect). Each shovel test was excavated in 10 cm (3.9 in) arbitrary levels within natural strata. Each shovel test measured 50 cm (19.6 in) in width and each was excavated to a minimum depth of 100 cmbs (39.4 inbs) or until the presence of groundwater hindered the excavation process. All excavated levels were screened separately through 0.64 cm (0.25 in) hardware cloth, and all artifacts were collected, bagged, and labeled with the proper proveniences. Finally, each shovel test was backfilled immediately upon completion of the archeological recordation process. A total of 73 of 70 (104 percent) planned shovel tests were excavated throughout the Area of Potential Effect.

#### Results of Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archeological Inventory

A total of three cultural resource loci were identified as a result of this Phase I cultural resources survey and archeological inventory (Figures 1 and 2). All three loci consisted of subsurface historic/modern period isolated artifacts or scatters. No further artifacts were recovered during delineation; thus, no further shovel tests were considered positive. The analysis of this material is ongoing; thus, the discussion below is based on field count data. The draft report detailing these investigations will contain the final artifact counts and results of the complete analysis of the recovered cultural material.

In addition to the recovered artifacts, a single cultural feature was identified during shovel testing of the project area, and was subsequently understood to be modern. Feature 1 was described as a raised earthen platform, originally thought a possible part of a buried foundation. Initially encountered between Transects 1 and 2, at 30 m (98.4 ft) west from the eastern edge of the project area, the feature measured 45 m (147.6 ft) east to west and 17 m (55.76 ft) north to south. After discovery, a total of three judgmental shovel tests were conducted within the confines of the feature, all of which were negative save a selection of modern debris and rubbish. The property owner subsequently informed the crew that the platform was the result of a large quantity of earth fill that he had placed eight months previously, in preparation for building a house on higher, raised ground (Record of Communication, November 10, 2005, on file). The feature was therefore discounted as modern.

A typical shovel test excavated within the temporary housing area extended to a depth of 100 cm (39.37 in) below surface and exhibited three strata in profile. Stratum I was described as a layer of dark gray brown (10YR 4/2) clay that ranged in depth from 0 to 10 cm (0 to 3.94 in) below surface. Stratum I was underlain by Stratum II, a deposit of very dark gray (10YR 3/1) clay with *Rangia* shell inclusions that extended from

10 to 20 cm (3.94 to 7.87 in) below surface. Stratum III was characterized as a layer of brown (10YR 5/3) clay silt with rotting root mass throughout; it extended from 20 to 100 cm (7.87 to 39.37 in) below surface. This stratigraphic profile is characteristic of a fill deposit containing heavy *Rangia* shell matter placed atop the original A horizon. In addition, a number of shovel tests confirmed disturbed deposits in the upper 30 cm (11.81 in). These areas appear to have been altered mechanically and layered with moved fill in the past. Conversations with the property owner confirmed this assessment.

#### Results of Shovel Testing

During survey, a total of 3 of 70 (4 percent) planned shovel tests produced historic/modern period cultural material (Figure 2). A total of nine artifacts and eight faunal specimens were recovered during shovel testing conducted within the Area of Potential Effect. This cultural material consisted of four milk glass fragments, two cut wood blocks, two brick fragments, a single lead shot, and eight faunal specimens. Much of this material was mixed with modern debris such as Styrofoam and plastic, and none were located in sealed strata or intact contexts. Although a total of 14 delineation shovel tests were conducted, none produced any additional cultural material. Therefore, all three cultural resources loci are considered historic/modern isolates.

#### Locus 01

Initially identified on Transect 2, Shovel Test 3 at 75 m (246 ft), Locus 01 consisted of a single lead shot. A total of five excavated and one not excavated shovel tests were conducted as part of the delineation of the locus. The single shovel test not excavated was due to its location atop Feature 1, the modern raised earthen platform placed by the landowner. The platform was approximately 0.91 m (3 ft) at its center, and a shovel test would not have penetrated the base of this fill deposit. Modern debris, including plastic, was noted in the upper stratum and fill layer of most delineation shovel tests. However, no delineation shovel tests were deemed positive for cultural resources.

A representative delineation shovel test consisted of three strata in profile. Stratum I extended in depth from 0 to 12 cm (0 to 4.72 in) below surface and was characterized as a layer of very dark gray brown (10YR 3/1) silty clay. Stratum I was underlain by Stratum II, which extended in depth from 12 to 65 cm (4.72 to 25.59 in) below surface. It was identified as a layer of dark gray brown (10YR 4/2) clay. Under Stratum II was Stratum III, a layer of brown (10YR 5/3) clay silt extending from 65 to 100 cm (25.59 to 39.37 in) below surface.

#### Locus 02

Initially identified on Transect 1, Shovel Test 7 at 180 m (590.4 ft), Locus 02 consisted of four milk glass fragments and a single faunal sample. A total of five delineation shovel tests were excavated within the project area. A single delineation shovel test could not be excavated due to its location outside of the project area. Modern surface debris was noted along the southern boundary of the locus. No subsurface debris was noted, however. *Rangia* shell was noted in the top stratum of most delineation shovel tests and no delineation shovel tests were positive.

A representative delineation shovel test from Locus 02 consisted of two strata in profile. Stratum I extended in depth from 0 to 20 cm (0 to 7.87 in) below surface and was characterized as a layer of dark gray brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay. Stratum I was underlain by Stratum II, which extended in depth from 20 to 100 cm (7.87 to 39.37 in) below surface. It was identified as a layer of gray brown (10YR 5/2) loamy clay mottled with pale brown (10YR 6/3) loamy clay and resembled modern fill.

#### Locus 03

Initially identified on Transect 4, Shovel Test 9 at 285 m (935.0 ft), Locus 03 consisted of two cut wood blocks, two brick fragments, and seven faunal specimens. A total of four delineation shovel tests were excavated within the project area; a total of two delineation shovel tests could not be excavated due to their location outside of the northern boundary of the project area. Modern surface debris was noted along the northern boundary of the locus. No subsurface debris was noted, however. No delineation shovel tests were positive.

A representative delineation shovel test consisted of two strata in profile. Stratum I extended in depth from 0 to 25 cm (0 to 9.84 in) below surface and was characterized as a layer of very dark gray (10YR 3/1) silty clay. Stratum I was underlain by Stratum II, which extended in depth from 25 to 100 cm (9.84 to 39.37 in) below surface. It was identified as a layer of brown (10YR 5/3) silty clay loam.

#### **Summary and Recommendations**

During Phase I testing of the temporary housing area, a total of three modern/historic isolated cultural resources loci (Loci 01, 02, and 03) were identified and delineated. Excavation of 73 of 70 (104 percent) planned shovel tests, and 14 delineation shovel tests within the project area resulted in the recovery of 17 artifacts and one modern feature. All cultural resources loci were determined to be modern/historic deposits mixed with the modern debris and fill noted throughout the site area. Due to an absence of depositional integrity and temporally diagnostic artifacts, all three loci lack research potential; thus, they do not possess the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). Furthermore, the single identified feature was later confirmed to be less than 8 months old. No additional work is recommended for any of the three historic/modern isolated cultural resources Loci 01, 02, 03, or the modern feature.

If you have any questions regarding this management summary, please do not hesitate to contact me, Mr. Sean Coughlin, or Mr. William P. Athens at the Tallahassee number listed above. As always, we remain at your service.

Sincerely,

#### Brandi M. Carrier Jones

Brandi M. Carrier Jones, M.A., R.P.A. Assistant Project Manager

and

Sean P. Coughlin, M.A., R.P.A.

Project Manager

#### **References Cited**

Federal Emergency Management Agency

2005 Correspondence to Pam Breaux, State Historic Preservation Officer for Louisiana. October 24, 2005. Re: Request to Initiate Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for Proposed Temporary Housing Site No. PL-14 Captain Larry's Site, Plaquemine's (sic) Parish, LA

#### Smith, S. D., P.G. Rivet, K. M. Byrd, and N. W. Hawkins

1983 *Louisiana's Comprehensive Archaeological Plan*. Second draft. Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.

#### **List of Figures**

- Figure 1. Excerpt from the 1996 digital 7.5' series USGS, Bertrandville, Louisiana, topographic quadrangle depicting the location of the proposed temporary housing area with inset aerial map depicting location of cultural resources loci.
- Figure 2. Plan view of the proposed temporary housing area depicting the locations of planned shovel tests, cultural resources loci, and delineation shovel tests.
- Figure 3. Overview photo of the proposed temporary housing area, facing northwest.

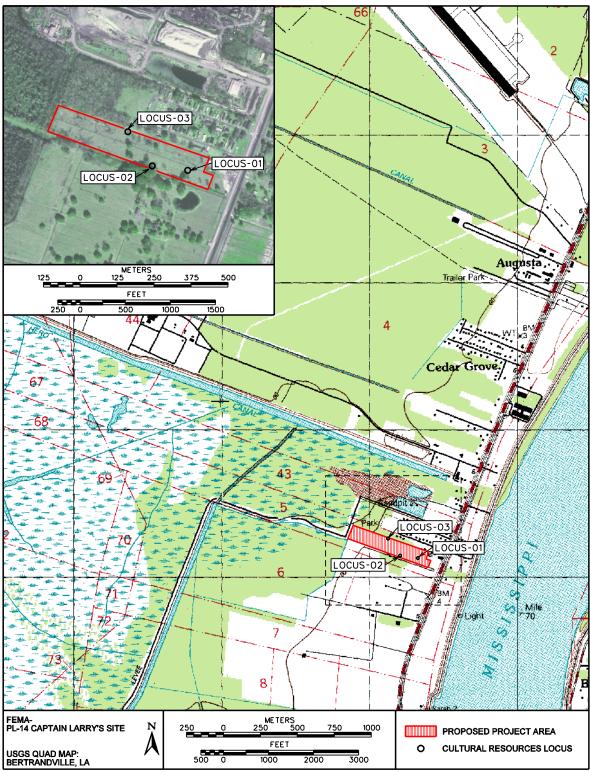


Figure 1. Excerpt from the 1996 digital 7.5' series USGS, Bertrandville, Louisiana, topographic quadrangle depicting the location of the proposed temporary housing area with inset aerial map depicting location of cultural resources loci.

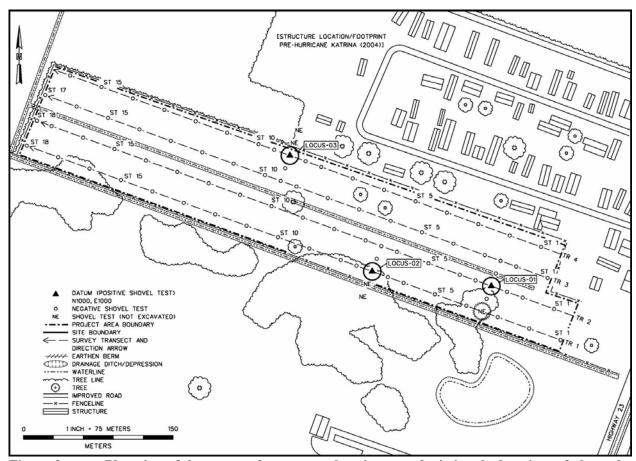


Figure 2. Plan view of the proposed temporary housing area depicting the locations of planned shovel tests, cultural resources loci, and delineation shovel tests.



Figure 3. Overview photo of the proposed temporary housing area, facing northwest.