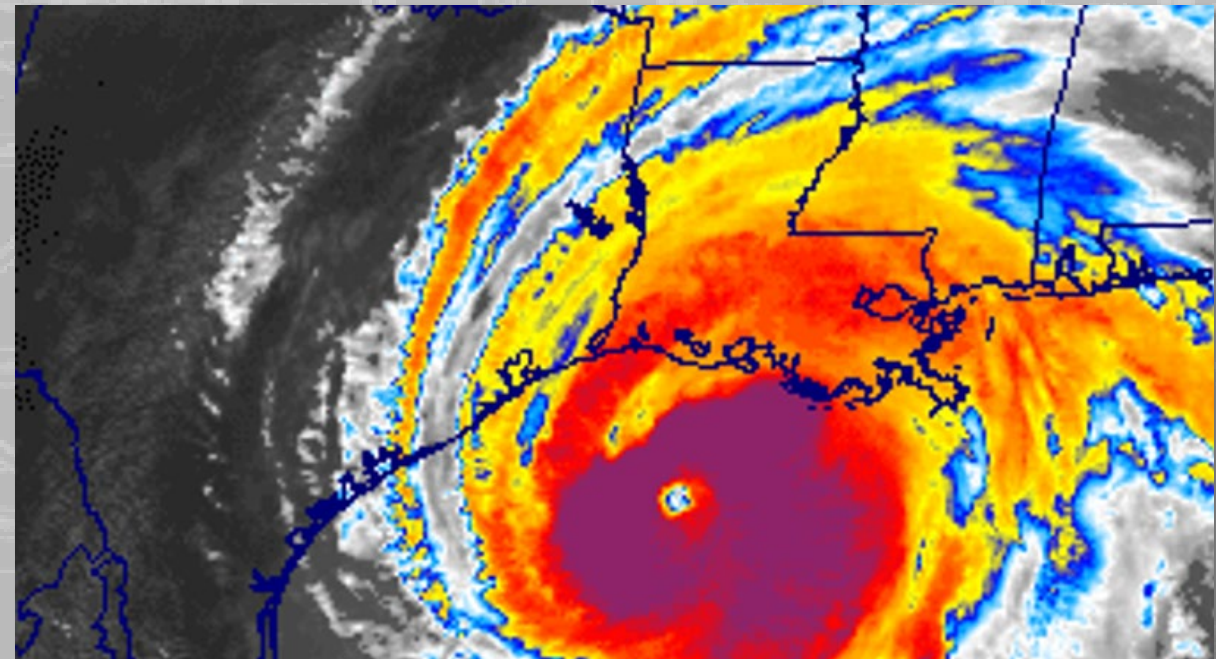
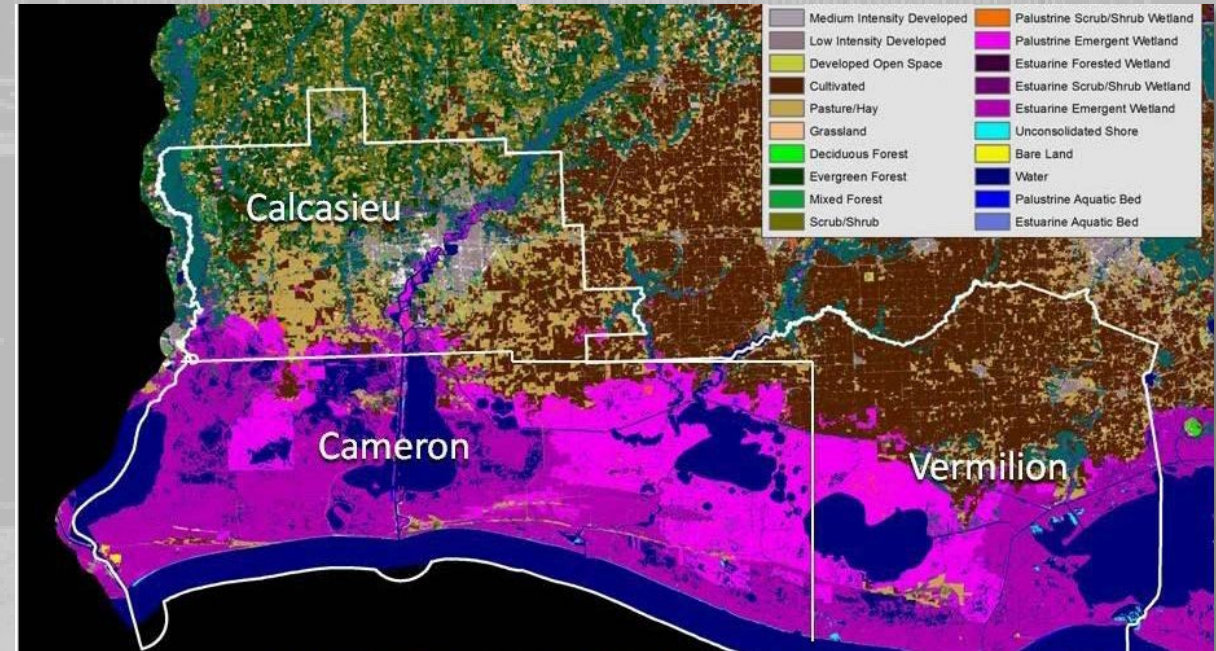


# Assessment of Flood Risk using the HEC-FDA Model for Coastal Evaluations Case Study: Southwest Coastal Louisiana

**Brian Maestri Economist**  
**Mississippi Valley Division**



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**



# OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- Southwest Coastal (SWC) Background and Alternatives
  - Study Purpose
  - Location and Characteristics of the Study Area
  - Flood History
  - Proposed Alternatives to Reduce Flood Risk
  
- Risk Assessment of Southwest Coastal Nonstructural Alternatives
  - Nonstructural Measures Defined
  - Modeling of Nonstructural Measures
  - Southwest Coastal Recommendations and Results
  - Current Status of Project and Nonstructural Evaluations



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# STUDY PURPOSE

Provide a recommendation for Federal participation in hurricane storm damage risk reduction and environmental restoration features in Cameron, Calcasieu, and Vermilion Parishes located in Southwest Louisiana that would be economically and environmentally justified



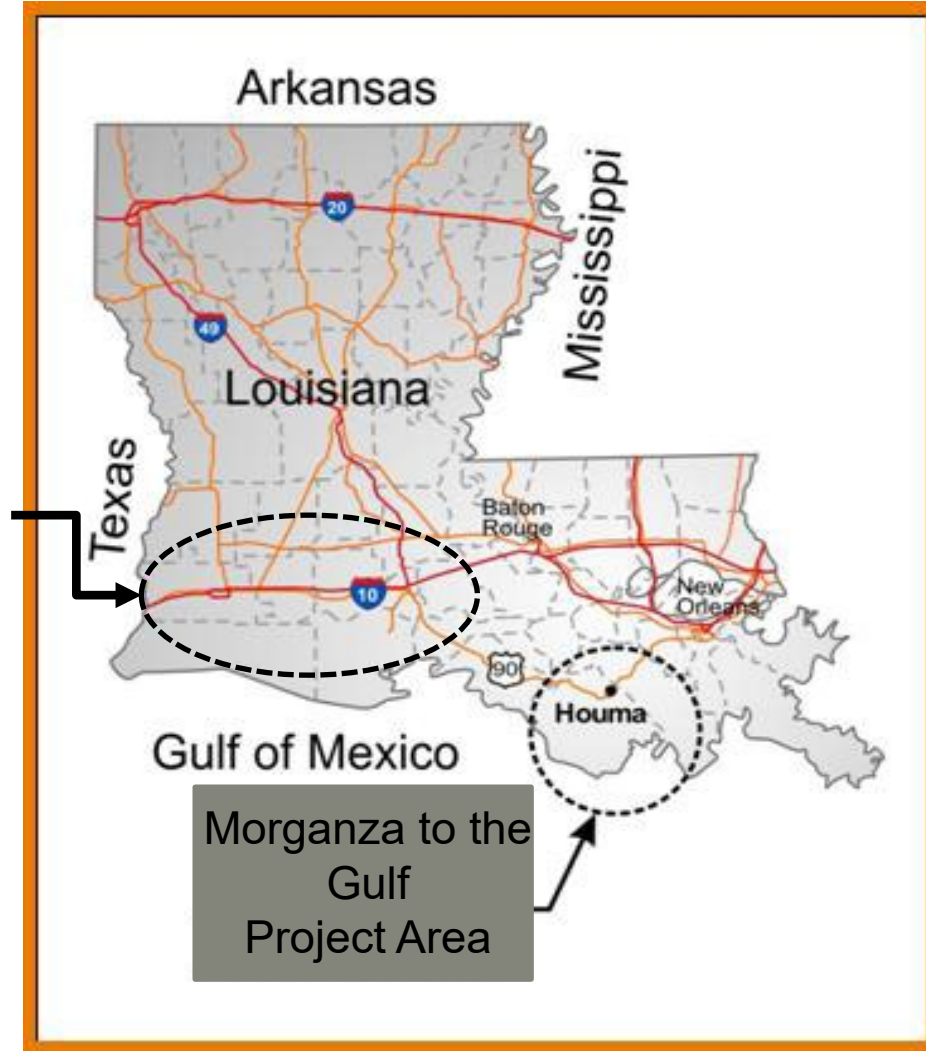
# NED and Ecosystem Restoration (NER) Solutions





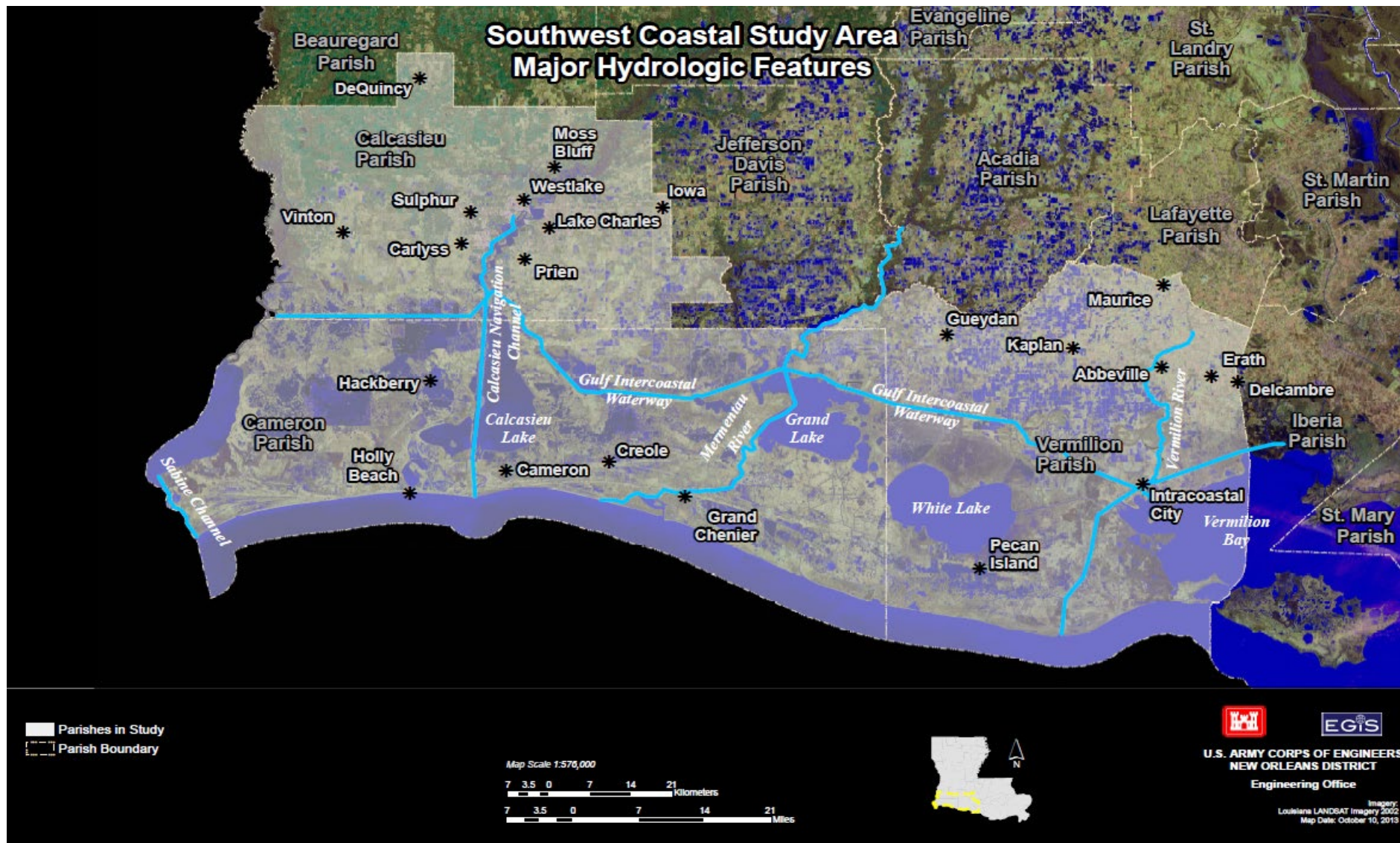
# LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA

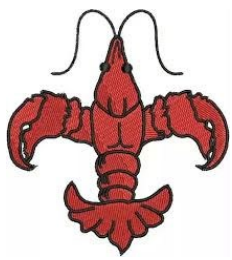
Southwest Coastal  
Louisiana  
Project Location



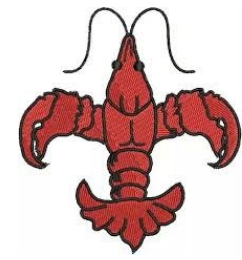


# CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY AREA





# CAJUN COUNTRY



Vermilion Parish – “The most Cajun Place in the World”

Calcasieu Parish – “quelqueshue” meaning “crying eagle”

Cameron Parish – part of “no man’s land in 1806 due to boundary dispute between US and Spain containing pirates, outlaws, and other nefarious characters







# CAJUN AND CREOLE



## origin:

Descendants of French-Canadians who relocated from Nova Scotia to Louisiana.

## location:

Originally settled in rural southern Louisiana but overtime has spread through out the state.

## The Difference Between Cajun & Creole

## cuisine:

Smoked, stewed, and spicy dishes of meat, seafood, and rice

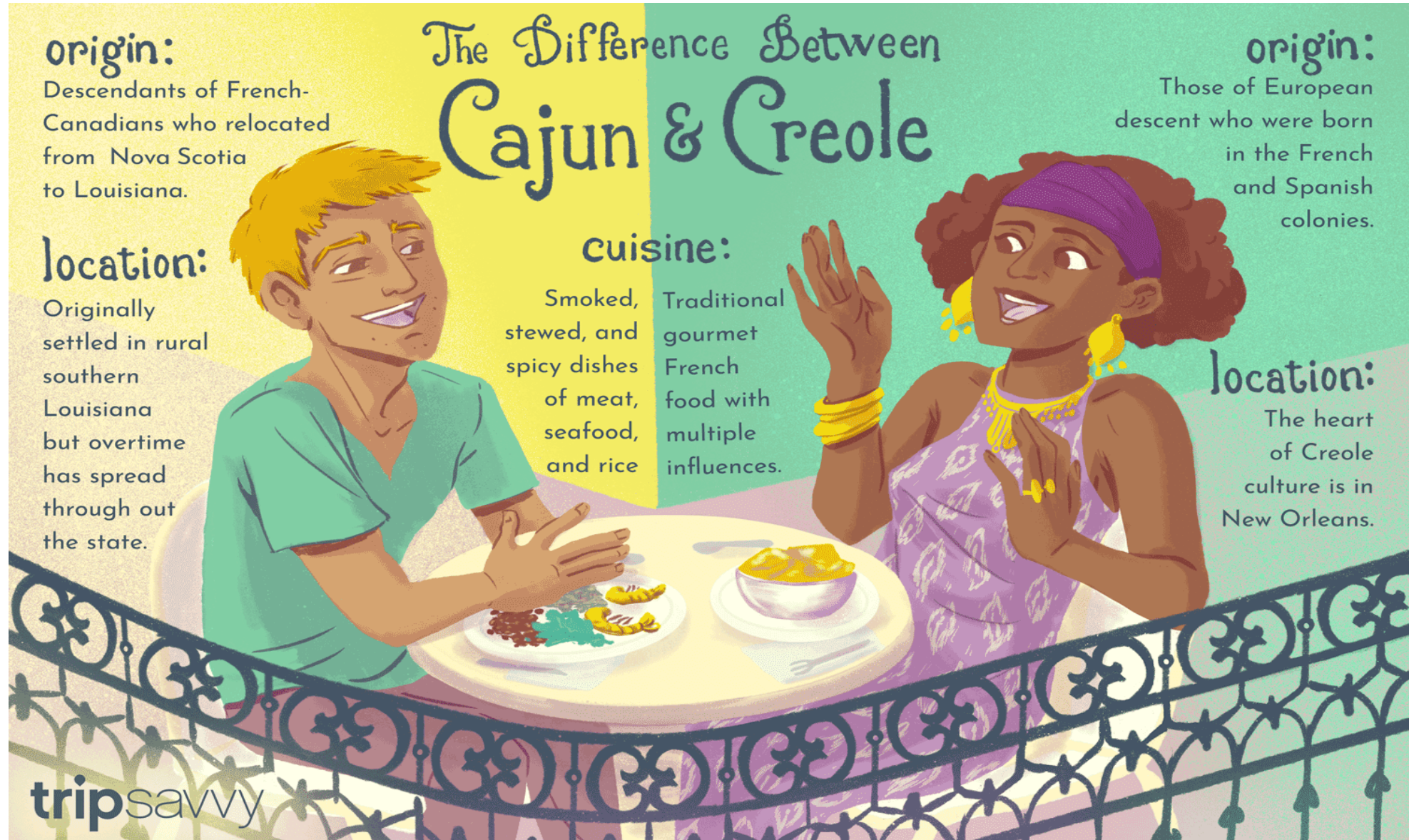
Traditional gourmet French food with multiple influences.

## origin:

Those of European descent who were born in the French and Spanish colonies.

## location:

The heart of Creole culture is in New Orleans.





# CAJUN VERSUS CREOLE COOKING

## THE MELTING POT

While each has its origins in the French style, both have been flavored by many other hands that stirred the pot, including:

Spanish	Native American	African	Italian	German
spices, red peppers, rice	filé powder, local herbs and spices, red beans	okra, yams	tomatoes, garlic	mustard, black pepper, sausage

more common in Cajun

more common in Creole

crawfish	catfish	cayenne	wild game	boudin	tomatoes	shrimp	oysters	crab	okra

**CRAWFISH BOIL**

**Oysters Rockefeller**

**Maque Choux**

**SHRIMP CREOLE**





# CAJUN TERMS

Laissez les bons ton roule – “let the good times roll”

C'est la vie – “that's life”

Cher – “my sweet”

Bouree – Cajun bridge (card game)

Fais-do-do – Cajun dance party (to make sleep)





# SWC ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

## Study Area Population 2010/2020

–160,000 residents in the inventoried area

## Per Capita Income 2010/2020

–Approximately \$40,000 - \$50,000



## Employment Drivers

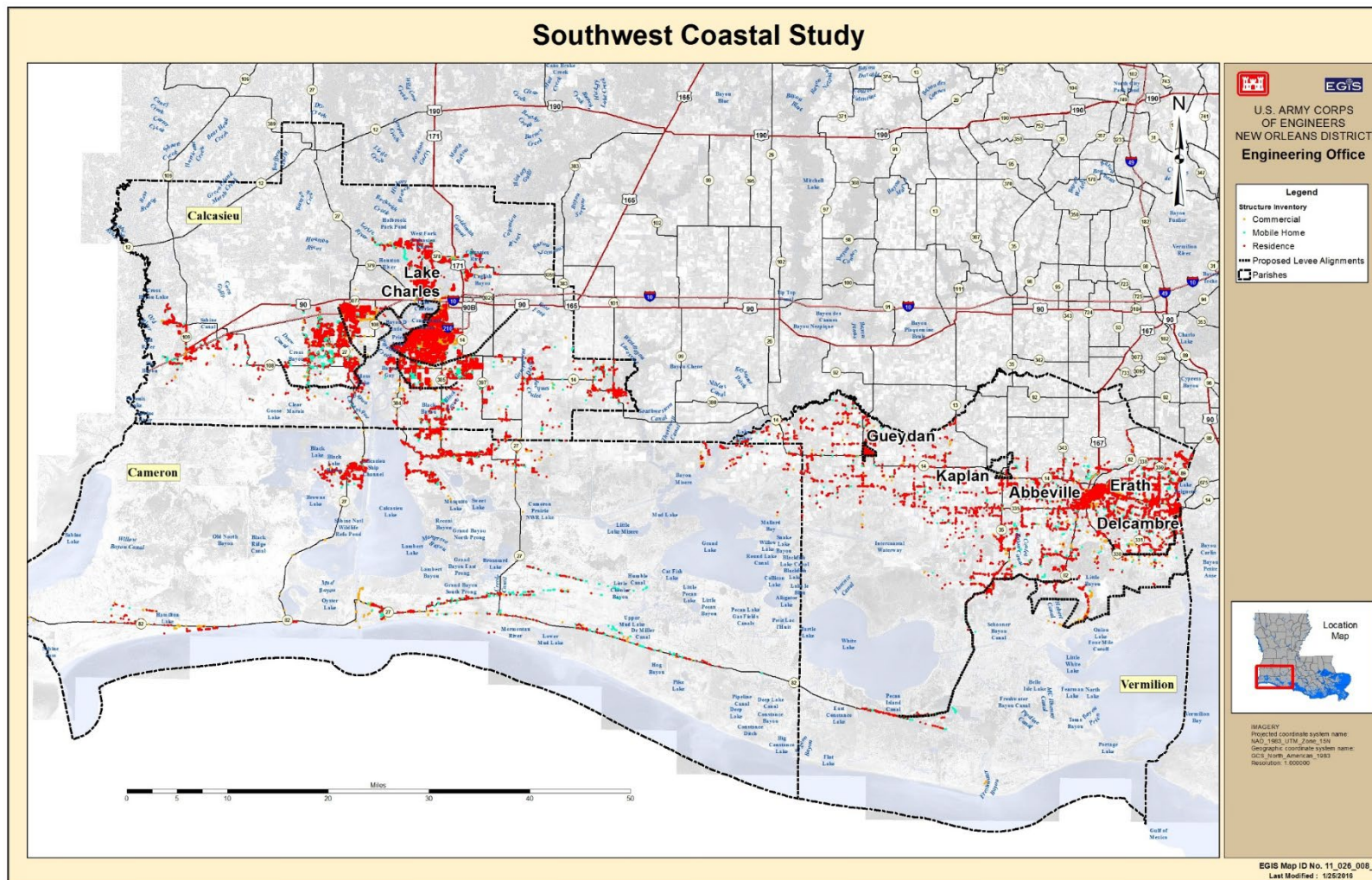
–Energy, Offshore Supply, Fisheries, Agriculture (Rice), Aquaculture, and Cajun Food and Culture

## Structure Inventory

- 47,000 Residential
- 5,000 Non-residential

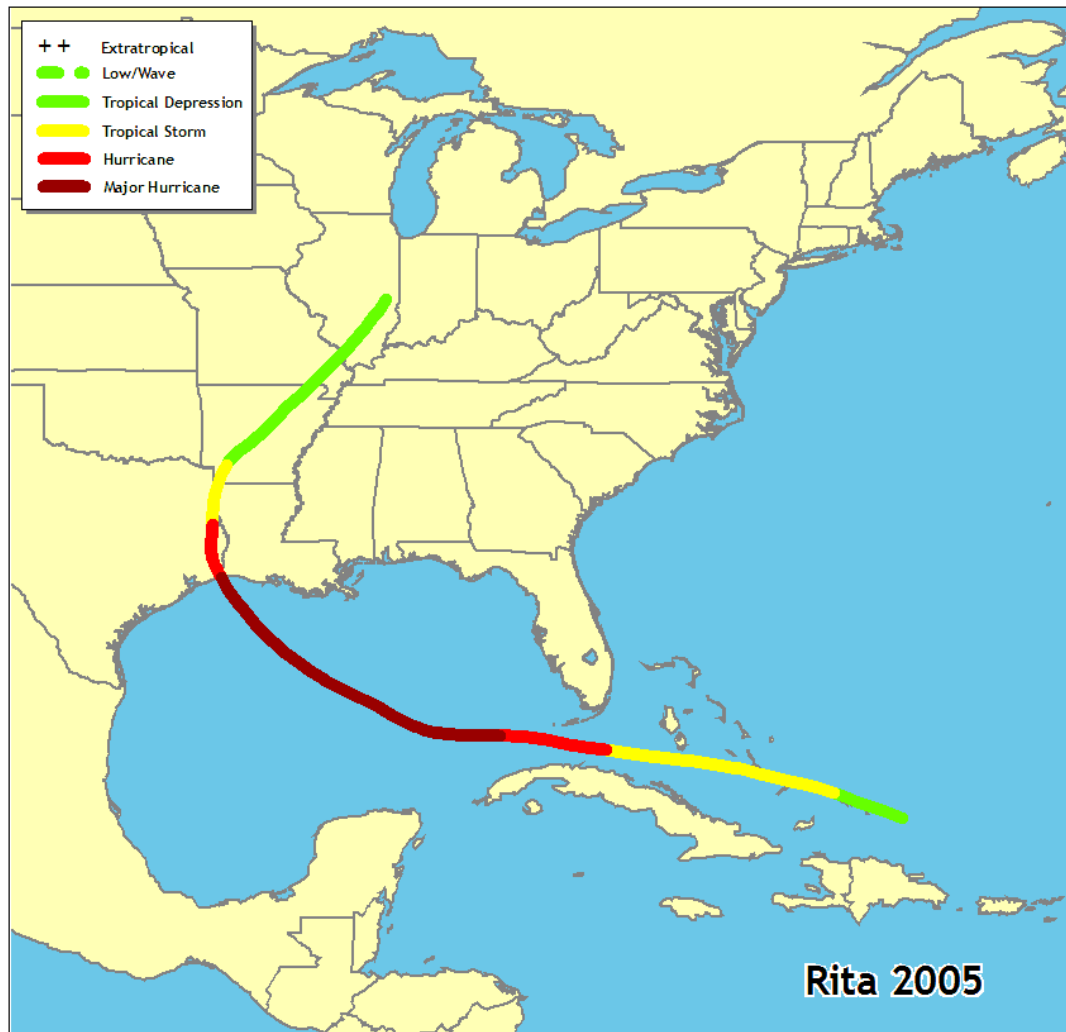


# STRUCTURE INVENTORY – WITHIN 500-YEAR OVERFLOW AREA



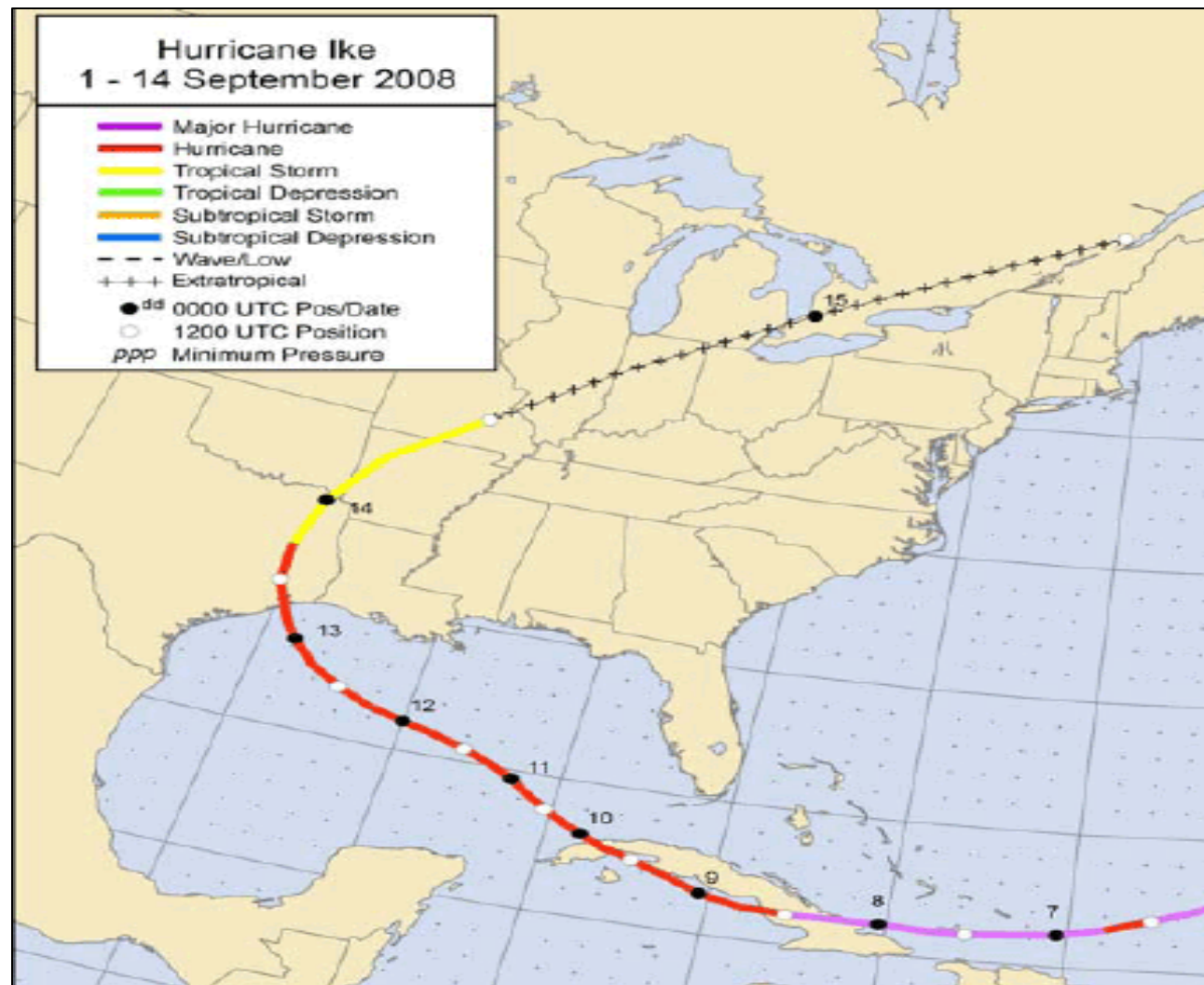


# HISTORICAL FLOODING: HURRICANE RITA (2005)





# HISTORICAL FLOODING: HURRICANE IKE (2008)





# HISTORICAL FLOODING: HURRICANES LAURA AND DELTA (2020)



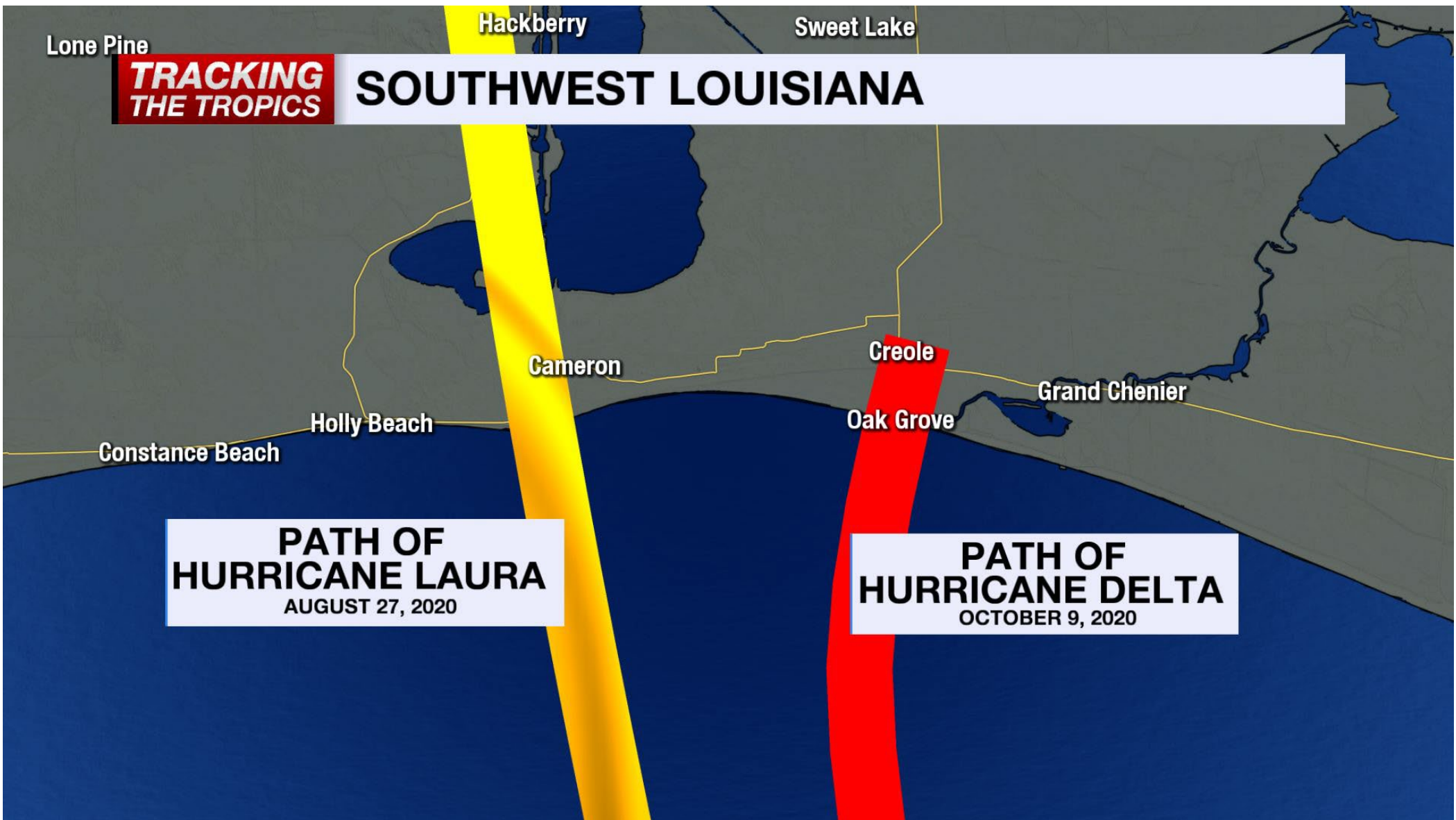
4:50 AM · Oct 8, 2020







# ACTUAL PATH OF HURRICANES LAURA AND DELTA



**TRACKING THE TROPICS SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA**

**PATH OF HURRICANE LAURA**  
AUGUST 27, 2020

**PATH OF HURRICANE DELTA**  
OCTOBER 9, 2020



# HOLLY BEACH, CAMERON PARISH

Pre-Storm

Post-Storm

Hurricane Rita (2005)



Hurricane Ike (2008)





# HOLLY BEACH, CAMERON PARISH 2020



Pre – Hurricane Laura and Delta – August 2020



Post - Hurricane Laura and Delta – October 2020





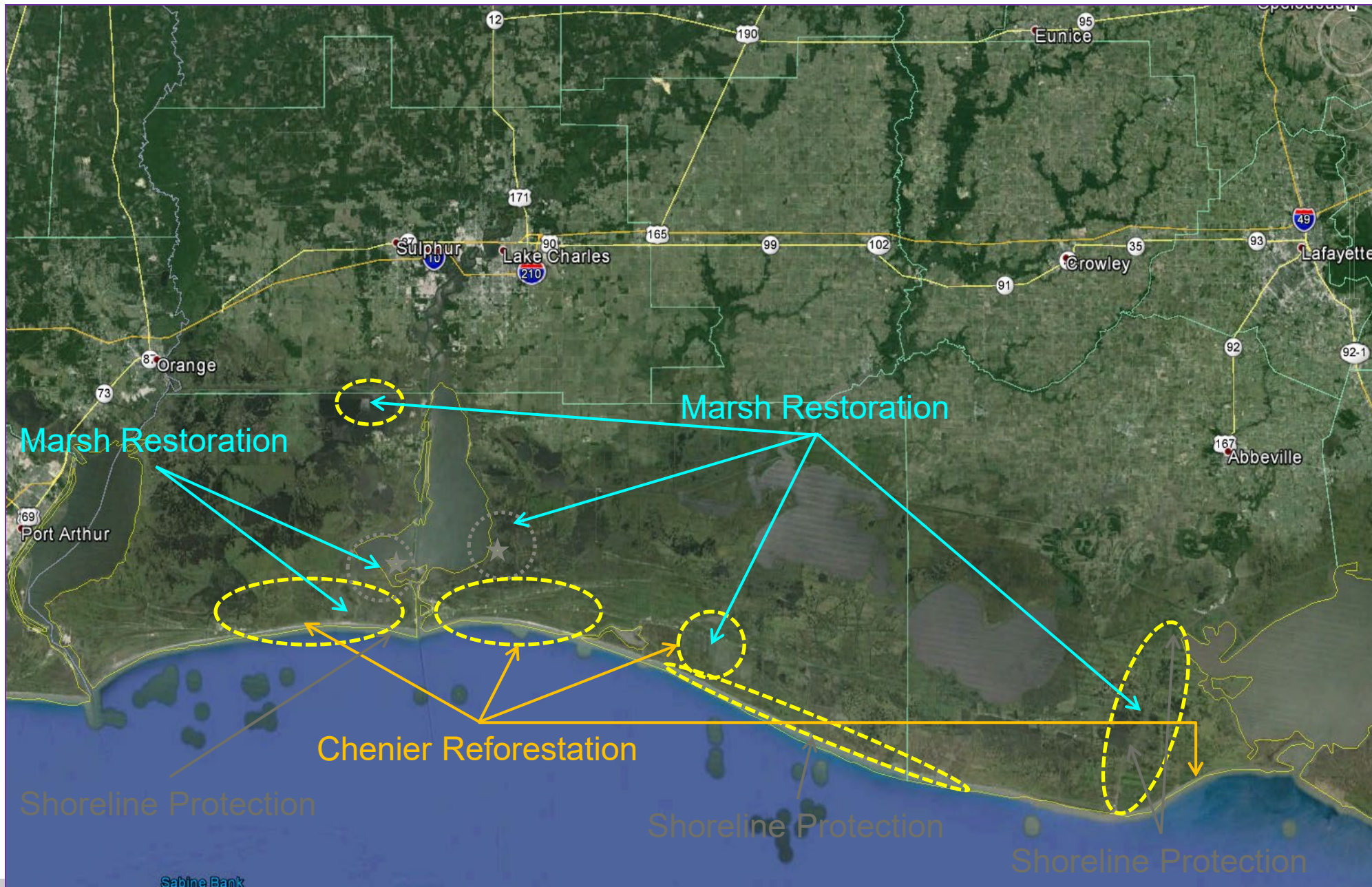
# FINAL ARRAY OF ALTERNATIVES



0. No Action Plan
1. Lake Charles Eastbank Levee
2. Lake Charles Westbank Sulphur Extended Levee
3. Lake Charles Westbank Sulphur South Levee
4. Delcambre/Erath Levee
5. Abbeville Levee
6. Abbeville to Delcambre Levee
7. Nonstructural Plan (By community)
8. Nonstructural Plan (By floodplain)



# NER FEATURES





# SWC BACKGROUND QUESTIONS



When developing a coastal or riverine flood risk management economics appendix include background information on:

- a. Population, income and employment trends
- b. Historical flooding information on the study area
- c. The study purpose and proposed alternatives
- d. All of the above

True or False:

The no action alternative should be eliminated from consideration as structural alternatives are formulated to reduce flood risk.

True or False:

Current policy requires nonstructural alternatives be investigated to reduce flood risk.



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  - Risk and Uncertainty Terms and Examples
  - Nonstructural Measures Defined
  - Modeling of Nonstructural Measures
  - Southwest Coastal Recommendations and Results (Updated status of project)



# RISK AND UNCERTAINTY



Risk = chance of something happening. It is measured in terms of consequences and likelihood.

Uncertainty = possible errors in the methods used to calculate parameters

Risk and uncertainty must be quantified.

Traditional method provides single point estimates.

Risk analysis provides a range and probability of occurrence (probability distribution).

Computer models use Monte Carlo Simulation

Hydrologic Engineering Center – Flood Damage Analysis (HEC-FDA) and @Risk (Excel add-on software)





# STRUCTURE VALUE UNCERTAINTY



RS Means Single-family, 1- story res.	Average	Good	Very Good	Mean Value	Standard Deviation	SD/Mean Value
Depreciated Replacement Cost (Sq Ft)	\$67	\$74	\$88	\$76.33	\$10.69	14.0%

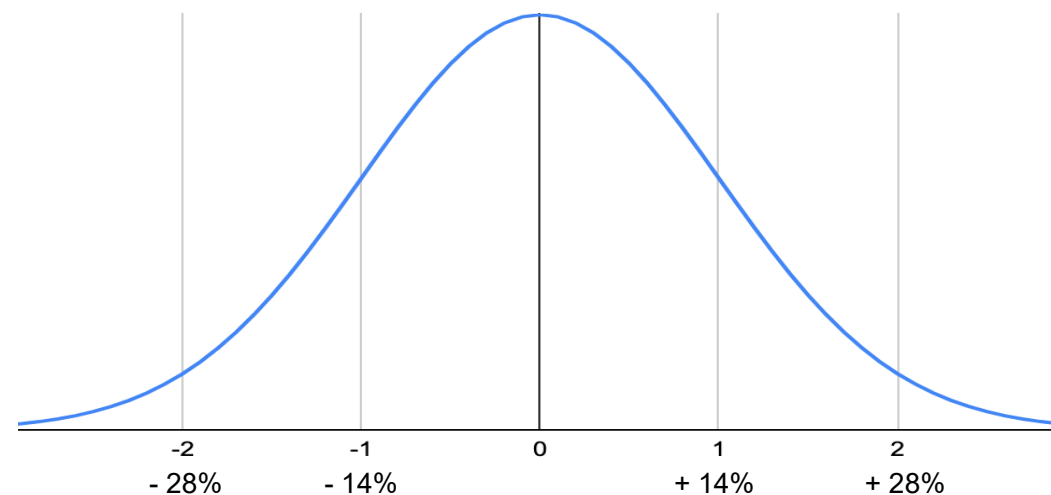
Southwest Coastal - Error Associated with Structure Value

Structure Occupancy Type: 1STY-PIER

Distribution Type

None
  Normal
  Triangular
  Log Normal

Structure Value Error (stdev in percent)





## QUESTIONS REGARDING THE STRUCTURE INVENTORY AND UNCERTAINTY



True or False:

The uncertainty surrounding the structure value can be measured using the standard deviation statistic as a percentage of the mean structure value assuming a normal probability distribution.

The value of structures used to calculate flood damages for FRM studies is based on the following:

- a. Replacement cost
- b. Market value
- c. Depreciated replacement cost
- d. Value of land



# DEPTH-DAMAGE RELATIONSHIPS



- **Depth-damage relationships** = percentage of the structure or its contents damaged at each increment of flooding above **first floor elevation**
- **Stage-damage relationships** = total damages to the structures and their contents in a community damaged at each increment of flooding above ground elevation as measured by mean sea level or other datum
- **Site-specific** = depth-damage relationships that are specific to the geographical planning area
- **Generic** = national depth-damage relationships that can be used by Corps Districts throughout the nation. Source: EGM 01-03 (residential no basements) and EGM 04-01 (residential with basements)

## DAMAGE FUNCTIONS FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES WITH BASEMENTS

### Structure Depth-Damage

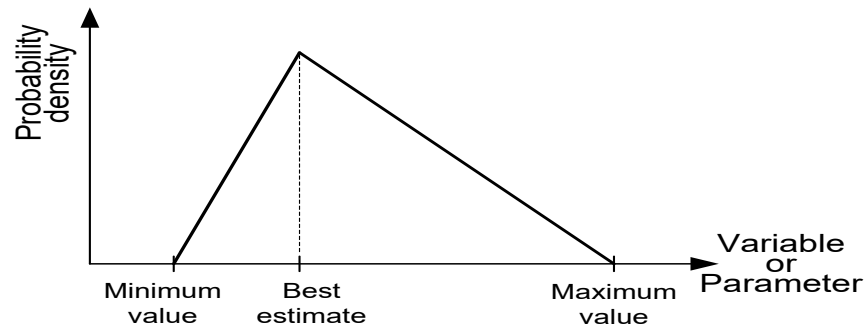
**Table 1  
Structure  
One Story, With Basement**

Depth	Mean of Damage	Standard Deviation of Damage
-8	0%	0
-7	0.7%	1.34
-6	0.8%	1.06
-5	2.4%	0.94
-4	5.2%	0.91
-3	9.0%	0.88
-2	13.8%	0.85
-1	19.4%	0.83
0	25.5%	0.85
1	32.0%	0.96
2	38.7%	1.14
3	45.5%	1.37
4	52.2%	1.63
5	58.6%	1.89
6	64.5%	2.14
7	69.8%	2.35
8	74.2%	2.52
9	77.7%	2.66
10	80.1%	2.77
11	81.1%	2.88
12	81.1%	2.88
13	81.1%	2.88
14	81.1%	2.88
15	81.1%	2.88
16	81.1%	2.88



# DEPTH-DAMAGE RELATIONSHIP UNCERTAINTY

- Triangular Probability Distribution
- Experts provided a minimum; most-likely; and maximum value for the damage percentages at each depth of flooding
- Combined the responses of the experts into one probability distribution





# MOLD DAMAGE





# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE



What is the probability of a given storm event occurring in any given year?

- 10-year event  $1/10 = .10$  (10 %)
  - 50-year event  $1/50 = .02$  ( 2 %)
  - 100-year event  $1/100 = .01$  ( 1 %)
  - 500-year event  $1/500 = .002$  ( 0.2 %)
- **Formula:  $1 / \text{recurrence event} = \text{probability or AEP}$**





## QUESTIONS REGARDING STAGE-PROBABILITY RELATIONSHIPS



What is the approximate ground elevation for the study area reaches?

Why are the stages so much higher for the south reach relative to the north reach?

What could be causing the stages to increase as we move to the future?

How would a structural alternative (such as levee along the coastline) affect the water surface elevations or stage-probability relationships?

How would a nonstructural alternative affect the water surface elevations or stage-probability relationships?





# STAGE-PROBABILITY RELATIONSHIP WITH UNCERTAINTY BANDS

Stage-Probability Relationships - 50-year Equivalent Record Length

SWCLA 4-23-13 - Exceedance Probability Functions with Uncertainty

File Edit View Help

Plan: Without Stream: SW Coastal

Analysis Year: 2025 Damage Reach: SA-001(1)

Function: Without20251 Use An Existing Function Save

Description: Cancel

Type

Analytical... Function Statistics...

Graphical... Plot...

Exceedance Probability	Stage (ft.)	Confidence Limit Curves			
		Stage (ft.)			
		-2 SD	-1 SD	+1 SD	+2 SD
0.9990	5.08	5.08	5.07	5.10	5.11
0.9900	5.09	5.08	5.08	5.10	5.11
0.9500	5.38	5.23	5.31	5.45	5.52
0.9000	5.53	5.33	5.43	5.64	5.74
0.8000	5.72	5.55	5.63	5.80	5.89
0.7000	5.85	5.70	5.77	5.93	6.01
0.5000	6.07	5.93	6.00	6.15	6.22
0.3000	6.30	6.12	6.21	6.38	6.47
0.2000	6.43	6.05	6.24	6.62	6.81
0.1000	7.03	6.23	6.63	7.43	7.83
0.0400	7.83	6.69	7.26	8.40	8.97



## QUESTIONS REGARDING STAGE-PROBABILITY RELATIONSHIPS WITH UNCERTAINTY



Two standard deviations is approximately the 95 percent level of confidence when using a Normal Probability Distribution. What is the minus or plus stages (in feet) at two standard deviations for the 25-year recurrent event on the previous slide?

- a. 6.63 and 7.43 feet
- b. 6.69 and 8.97 feet
- c. 7.26 and 8.40 feet
- d. 5.93 and 6.22 feet

SWCLA 4-23-13 - Exceedance Probability Functions with Uncertainty

File Edit View Help

Plan: Without Stream: SW Coastal

Analysis Year: 2025 Damage Reach: SA-001(1)

Function: Without20251 Use An Existing Function Save

Description:

Type

Analytical...  Graphical...

Function Statistics... Plot...

Exceedance Probability	Stage (ft.)	Confidence Limit Curves			
		Stage (ft.)			
		-2 SD	-1 SD	+1 SD	+2 SD
0.9990	5.08	5.08	5.07	5.10	5.11
0.9900	5.09	5.08	5.08	5.10	5.11
0.9500	5.38	5.23	5.31	5.45	5.52
0.9000	5.53	5.33	5.43	5.64	5.74
0.8000	5.72	5.55	5.63	5.80	5.89
0.7000	5.85	5.70	5.77	5.93	6.01
0.5000	6.07	5.93	6.00	6.15	6.22
0.3000	6.30	6.12	6.21	6.38	6.47
0.2000	6.43	6.05	6.24	6.62	6.81
0.1000	7.03	6.23	6.63	7.43	7.83
0.0400	7.83	6.69	7.26	8.40	8.97



## DEPTH-DAMAGE AND STAGE-PROBABILITY RELATIONSHIP QUESTIONS



True or False

Zero depth is located at the first-floor elevation of structures in depth-damage relationships.

Which of the following statements is false?

- a. The longer the equivalent record length of gage information, then the less uncertainty surrounding water surface elevations
- b. Nonstructural measures reduce the stages associated with the various probability events leading to lower with-project damages
- c. Relative sea-level rise is a factor that can lead to higher stages associated probability events for future years
- d. Risk is measured in terms of consequences and likelihood of occurrence



# WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRDA) 2007



- Best available economic techniques, including risk and uncertainty
- Prioritize public safety
- Environmental justice
- Nonstructural approaches
- Systems approach
- Integrated water resources management



# NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES DEFINED

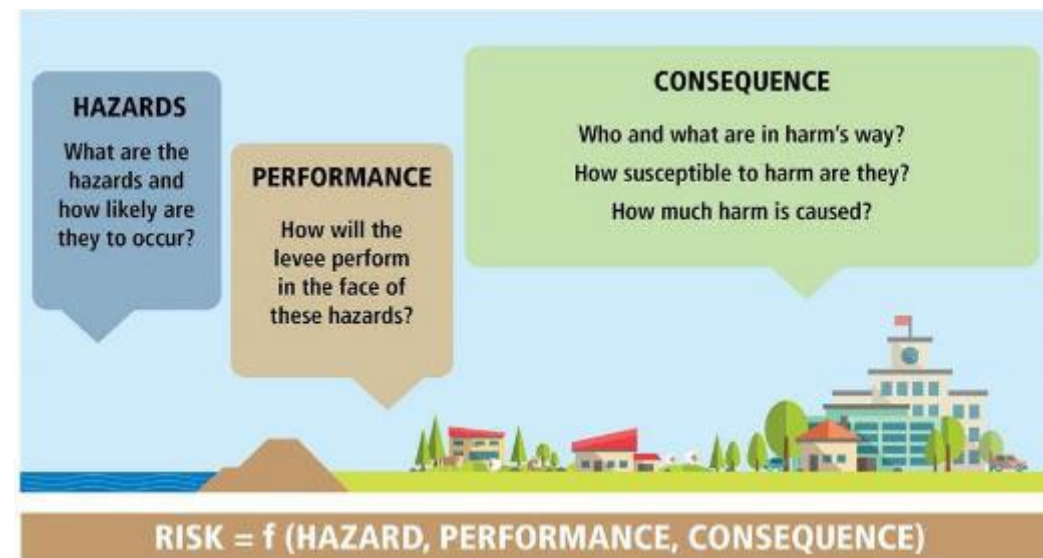
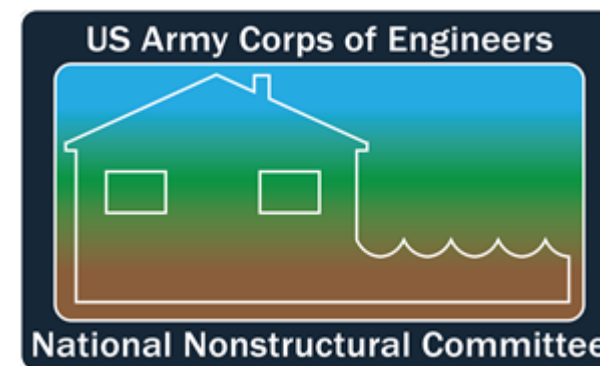


Nonstructural measures are permanent or contingent measures applied to a structure and/or its contents that prevent or provide resistance to damage from flooding. Nonstructural measures differ from structural measures in that they focus on reducing the **CONSEQUENCES** of flooding instead of focusing on reducing the **PROBABILITY** of flooding.

Changing the **CONSEQUENCES** not the **HAZARD**

Typically, only need without project H&H for nonstructural alternatives!

Two types of nonstructural measures: physical (elevation, floodproofing, relocation or acquisition) and nonphysical (evacuation plans, floodplain mapping and warning systems) measures that provide resistance to damage from flooding





# NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES - SWC

- Elevating residential structures



- Flood proofing non-residential structures



- Localized storm surge risk reduction measures around warehouses (wet flood proofing – water runs through vents near bottom of building). Owner responsible for removing or elevating contents.





# NONSTRUCTURAL PLAN UNIT OF ANALYSIS



(DEFINING THE COLLECTION OF STRUCTURES INCLUDED IN THE RECOMMENDED PLAN)

By Reach

➤ 90 Reaches – 63 Occupied – 11 Justified

By Community

➤ Urban Areas vs. Rural Areas

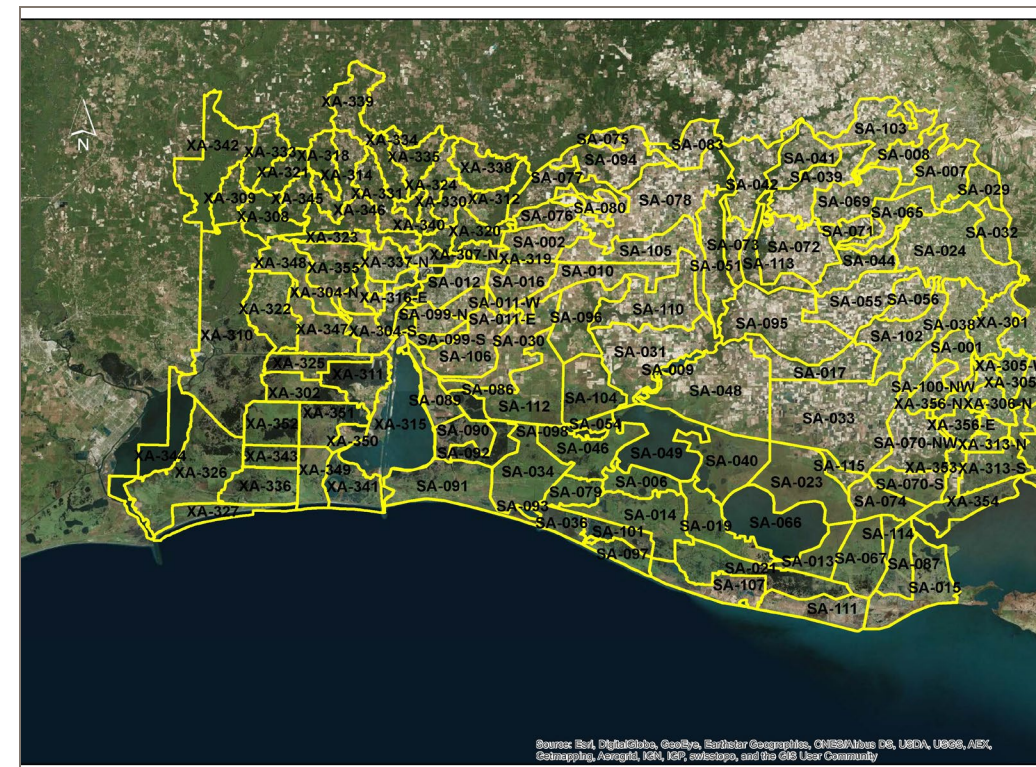
By Total Study Area

➤ 100-Year Floodplain

By Floodplain

➤ Tiered Approach within the 100-year Floodplain

25-Year Floodplain





# FLOODPLAIN SUMMARY OF WITHOUT- PROJECT DAMAGES

	Complete Study Area	Total 100-Year Floodplain	Tier 1 0 to 25 year Floodplain	Tier 2 25 to 50 year Floodplain	Tier 3 50 to 100 year Floodplain
Equivalent Annual					
Without Project Damages	\$ 474,571	333,561	280,457	30,428	22,676
Total Number of Structures	51,857	15,667	4,952	4,216	6,499
Residential Structures	46,860	13,934	4,219	3,811	5,904
Non-Residential Structures	3,432	1,003	396	209	398
Warehouses	1,565	730	337	196	197





# MODULE ASSIGNMENT – STRUCTURE ELEVATION



SWCLA 4-23-13 - Structure Module Assignment

File Edit View Help

Plan: Without Analysis Year: 2025

Structure Module Name:

- Base
- WO\_2025NoRaise
- WO\_2025Raise

Save Cancel

SWCLA 4-23-13 - Structure Module Assignment

File Edit View Help

Plan: 1 Analysis Year: 2025

Structure Module Name:

- Base
- WO\_2025NoRaise
- WO\_2025Raise

Save Cancel

Struc_Name	Cat_Name	Stream_Name	Occ_Name	Station	Struc_Val	1F_Stage	Mod_Name
110901	RES	SW Coastal	1STY-PIER	283	99.81	8.36	WO_2025NoRaise
110901R	RES	SW Coastal	1STY-PIER	283	99.81	12.4	WO_2025Raise



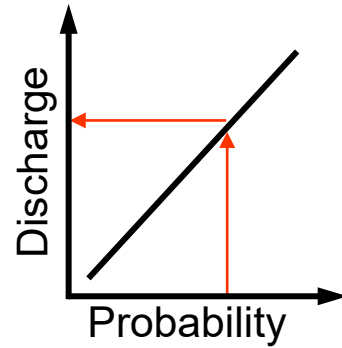


# CALCULATING EXPECTED ANNUAL DAMAGES (NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES)

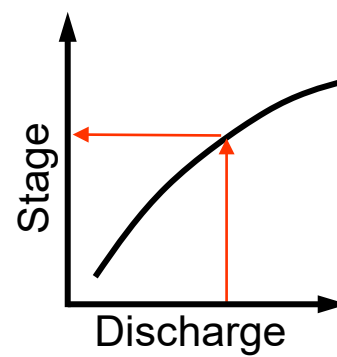


## Derived Probability-Damage Relationship

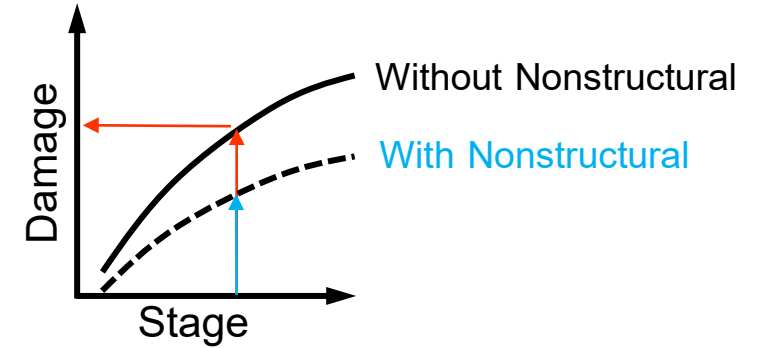
Basic Functions



Hydrology

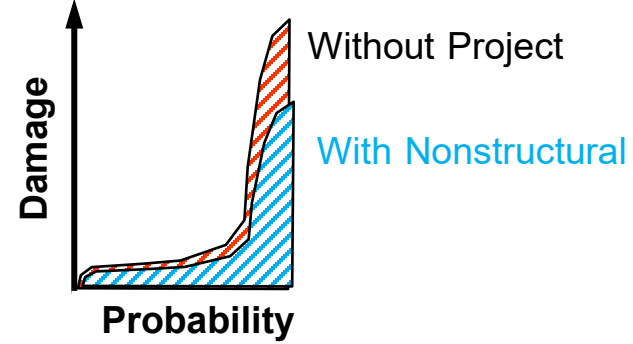
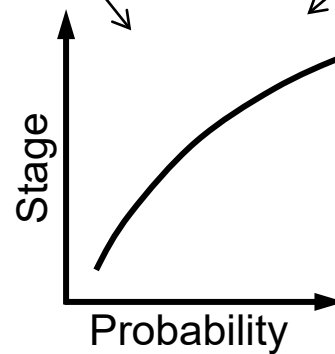


Hydraulics



Economics

Derived Functions



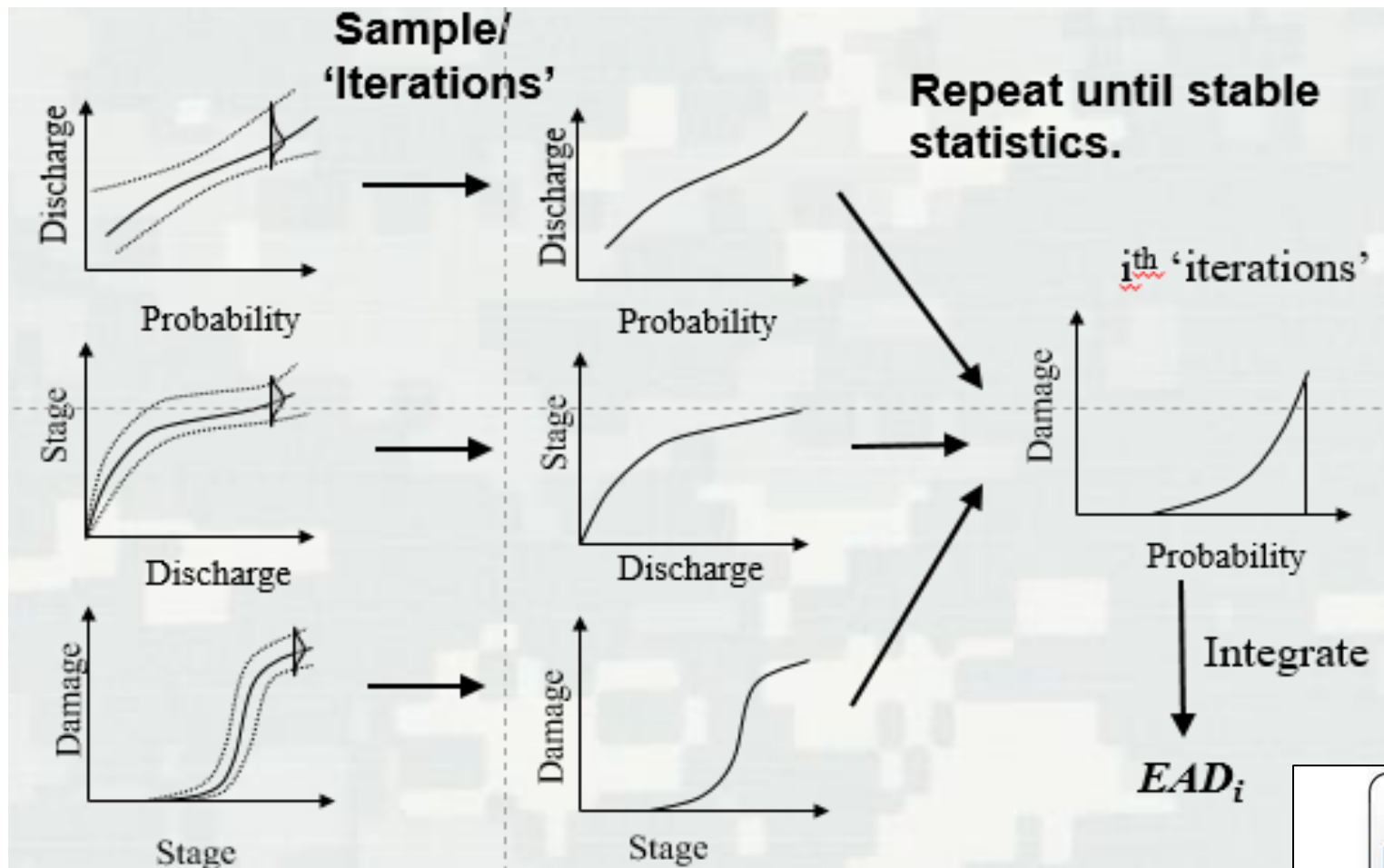


# NED BENEFIT CALCULATION





# CALCULATING EAD USING MONTE CARLO SIMULATIONS





# DISPLAY RESULTS FOR PLAN NOT INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURES



## PLANNING BULLETIN

US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

No. PB 2019-03

Issuing Office: CECW-P

Issued: 13 December 2018

**Subject:** Further Clarification of Existing Policy for USACE Participation in Nonstructural Flood Risk Management and Coastal Storm Risk Management Measures

**Applicability:** Guidance

AfterNonstructural  
Equivalent Annual Damage Reduced and Distributed by Plans  
(Damage in \$1,000's)

Discount Rate: 2.875  
Analysis Period: 50 Years  
Version 1.4.2, July 2017; Less Simple Method (0.010)

Plan Name	Plan Description	Equivalent Annual Damage			Probability Damage Reduced Exceeds Indicated Values		
		Total Without Project	Total With Project	Damage Reduced	.75	.50	.25
Without	No Action	72.62	72.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
With	Nonstructural	72.62	9.50	63.13	38.94	59.46	83.33

\*\*\*\*\* - Computations have not been completed.  
+ - Something has changed and computations need to be redone.



# COST PER SQUARE FOOT OF ELEVATING RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

(FY 2015 PRICE LEVELS)

Ft. Raised	1STY-SLAB			2STY-SLAB			1STY-PIER			2STY-PIER			MOBHOM		
	Min	Most Likely	Max	Min	Most Likely	Max	Min	Most Likely	Max	Min	Most Likely	Max	Min	Most Likely	Max
1	66	74	82	74	82	90	57	65	73	64	72	80	32	36	40
2	66	74	82	74	82	90	57	65	73	64	72	80	32	36	40
3	67	75	83	75	83	91	60	68	76	67	75	83	32	36	40
4	70	78	86	80	88	96	60	68	76	67	75	83	32	36	40
5	70	78	86	80	88	96	60	68	76	67	75	83	40	44	48
6	71	79	87	82	90	98	61	69	77	68	76	84	40	44	48
7	71	79	87	82	90	98	61	69	77	68	76	84	40	44	48
8	74	82	90	85	93	101	63	71	79	70	78	86	40	44	48
9	74	82	90	85	93	101	63	71	79	70	78	86	40	44	48
10	74	82	90	85	93	101	63	71	79	70	78	86	40	44	48
11	74	82	90	85	93	101	63	71	79	70	78	86	40	44	48
12	74	82	90	85	93	101	63	71	79	70	78	86	40	44	48
13	77	85	93	90	98	106	64	72	80	71	79	87	40	44	48



# NET BENEFIT CALCULATION

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Total} \\ \hline \text{Benefits} \\ \hline \end{array} - \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Total} \\ \hline \text{Costs} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Net} \\ \hline \text{Benefits} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Total} \\ \hline \text{Benefits} \\ \hline \end{array} \div \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Total} \\ \hline \text{Costs} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{B/C Ratio} \\ \hline \end{array}$$



# RECOMMENDED PLAN

- Is focused on the properties exposed to the highest flood risk in the study area as defined by the 25-year floodplain.
  
- Reduces risk for 3,961 total structures
  - 3,462 residential
  - 342 non-residential
  - 157 warehouses
  
- Estimated first cost of ~\$908M (FY15 price level)
  
- Benefit-to-Cost ratio of 5.6:1
  
- Average annual net benefits of ~\$167M (FY15 price level)





# UPDATED STATUS OF SOUTHWEST COASTAL



- Engineering and Design Phase (PED phase is on-going)
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA - \$125 million to jumpstart the project)
- Economic Update (conducted 5 years after authorization to determine if still economically feasible)





# CONSIDERATIONS FOR GROUPING STRUCTURES



## 1. Hydraulic Characteristics

- Left bank / right bank
- Source of flooding
- Frequency of flooding
- Timing of flooding (arrival, duration)
- Physics of flooding (depths, velocities,  $d \times v$ )
- Hydrologic influences (ice flow, debris laden, erosion)

## 2. Structure Characteristics

- First floor elevation
- Common land use, structure type, construction method/category, age
- Density of development
- Historic areas or neighborhoods
- Shared infrastructure (physical)
- Shared critical infrastructure (buildings)

## 3. Community Characteristics

- Shared demographics
- Shared socioeconomics
- Shared cultural values
- Political jurisdictions

## 4. Life Risk Characteristics

- Population age (over/under 65)
- Available evacuation routes
- Accessibility to public transportation
- Physics of flooding (depths, velocities,  $d \times v$ )
- Structural attributes (story height, wall type, attic access)

## 5. Other Characteristics

- Common flood consequences (e.g., % damage)
- Potential for reuse of evacuated floodplain for ecosystem restoration or recreation



# NONSTRUCTURAL QUESTIONS



What feature of the HEC-FDA model is used to manipulate the structure records to provide damage and benefit results?

- a. Price indexing
- b. Modules
- c. Monte Carlo simulation
- d. Content-to-Structure Value ratios (CSVs)

True or False:

Nonstructural measures do not change the hazard, only the consequences of a flood event.



# ECONOMIC RESULTS QUESTIONS



True or False:

Total benefits minus total costs equals net benefits.

True or False:

If the benefit to cost ratio equals 1.0 or greater, then the project costs exceed the project benefits.



# HURRICANE IDA – CATEGORY 4 – 29 AUGUST 2021







# WUZZLES NONSTRUCTURAL

Nonstructural Wuzzles – is a riddle that uses words, letters and/or graphics to create a disguised word, phase or saying.

Example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON



# WUZZLES

NOON                      GOOD

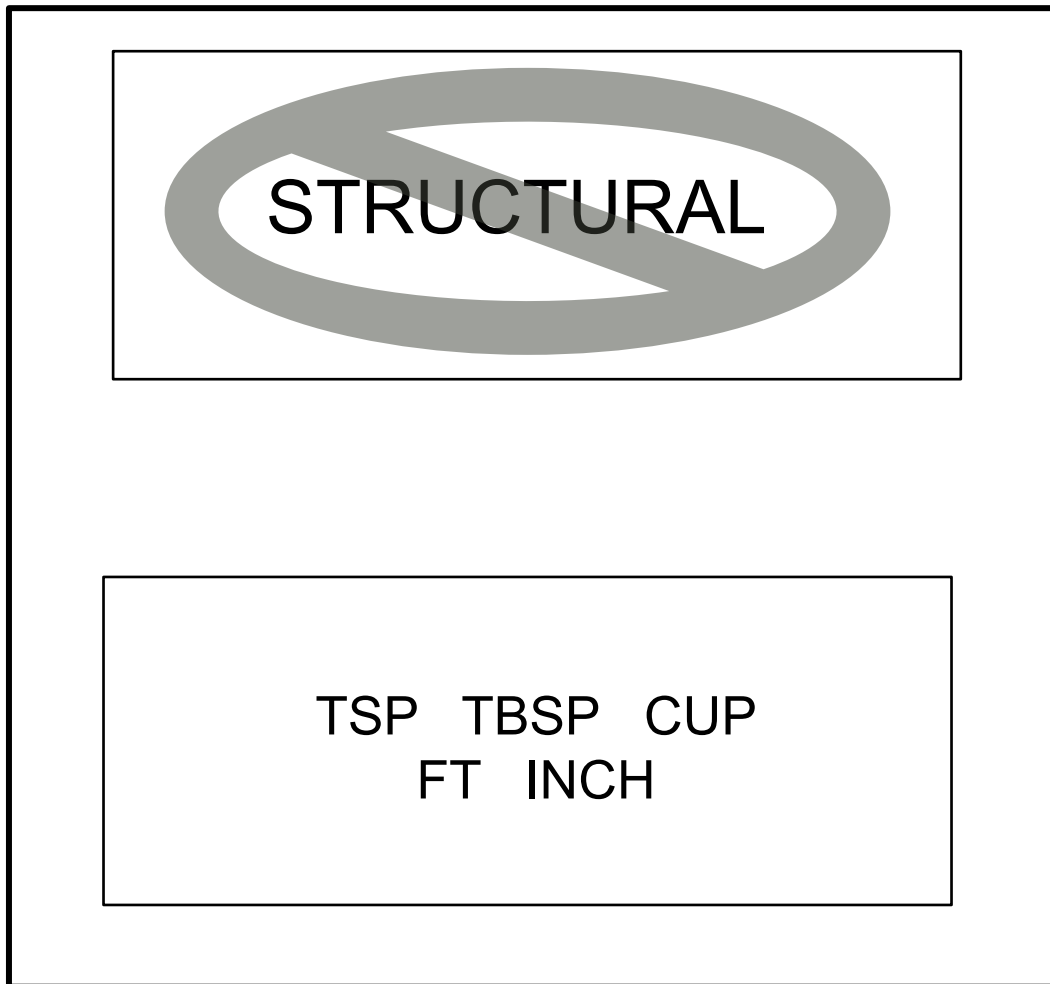
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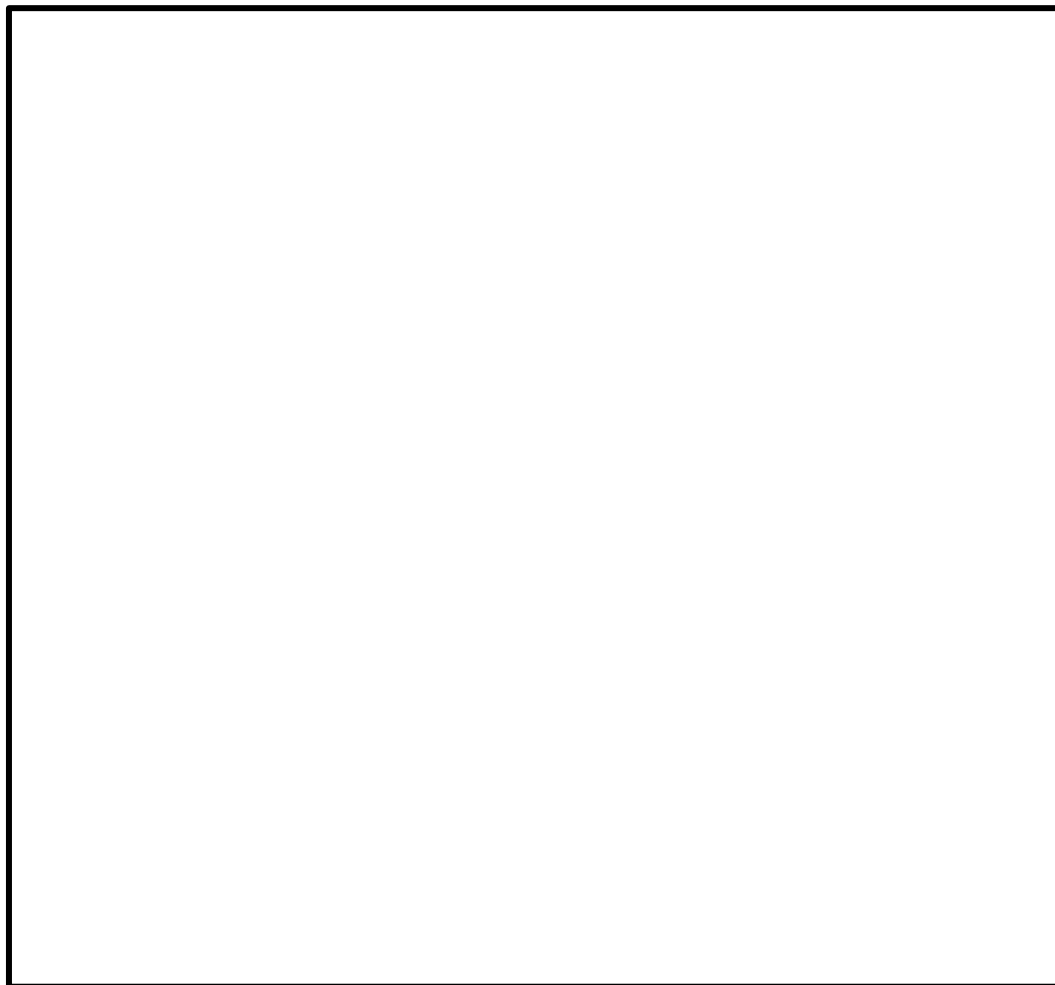


# NONSTRUCTURAL WUZZLES





# NONSTRUCTURAL WUZZLES

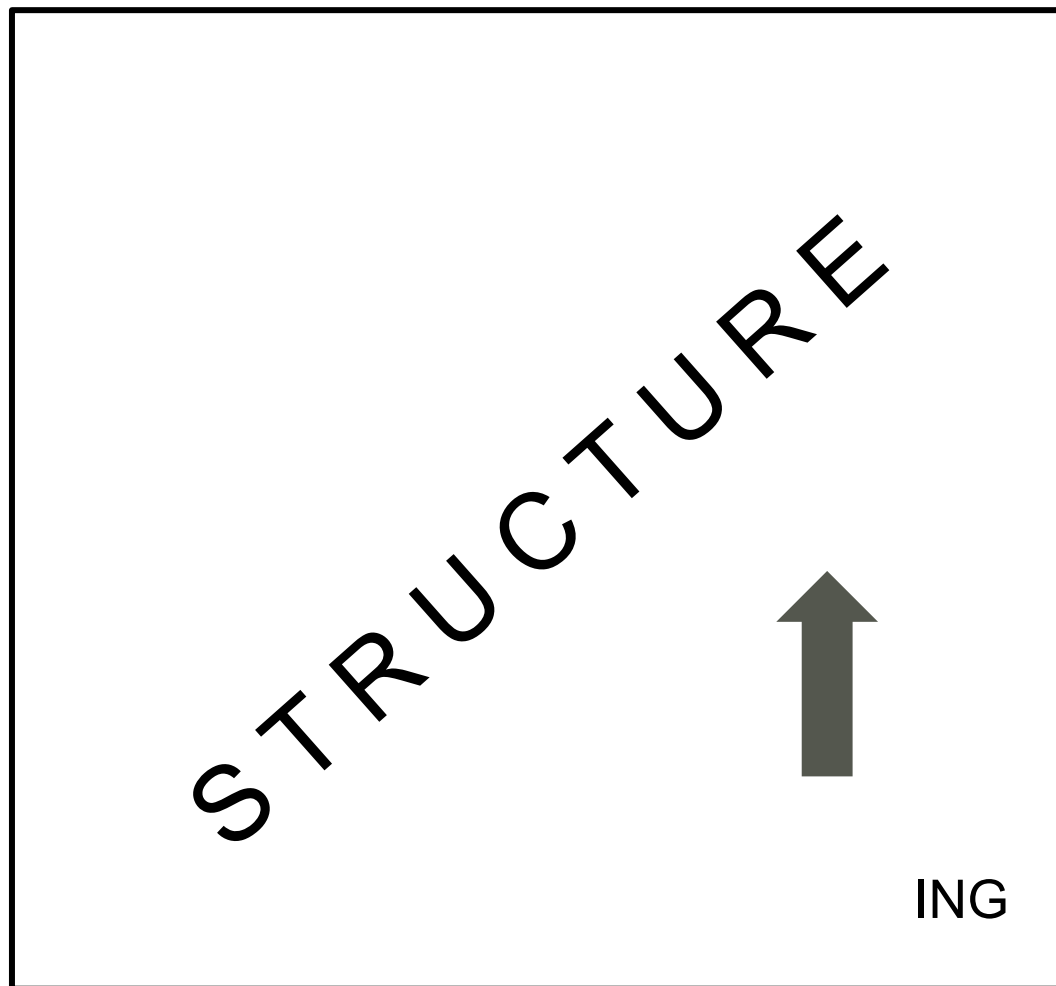


BUY



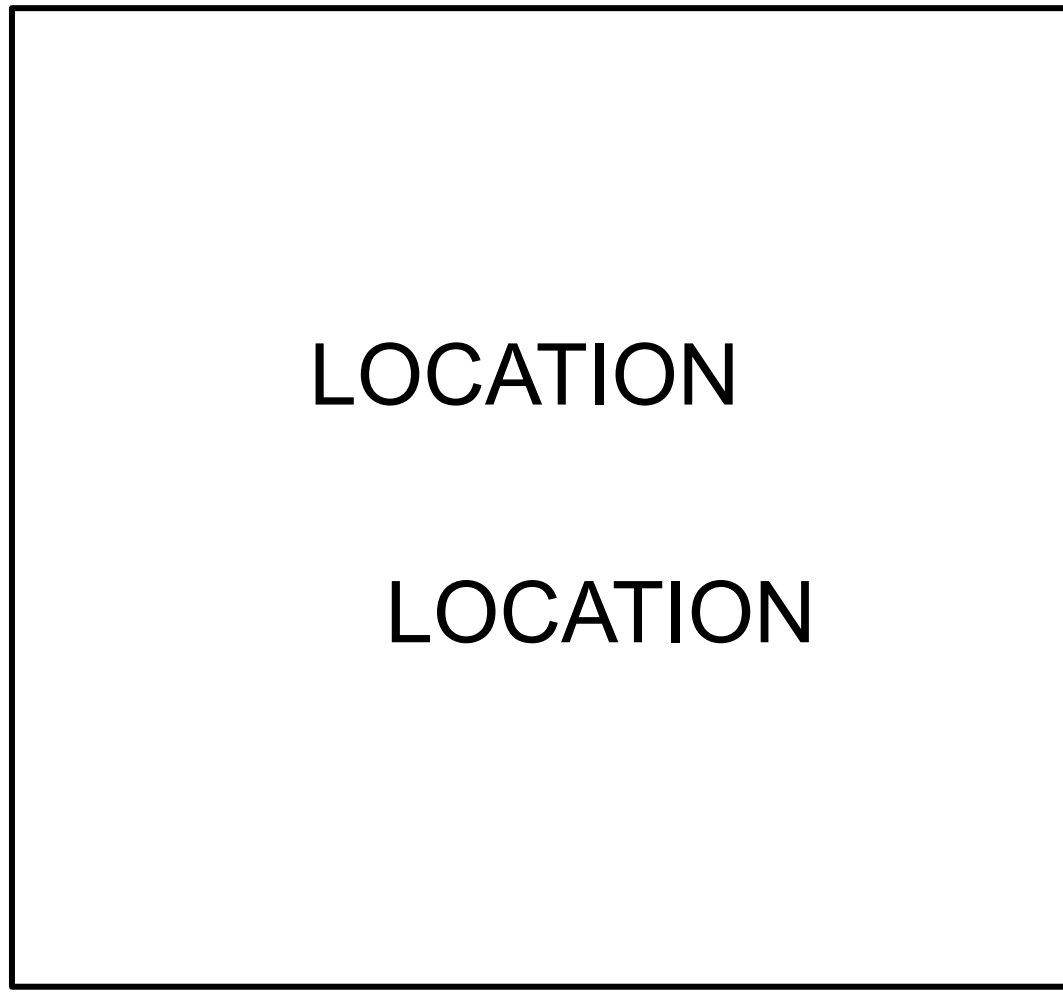


# NONSTRUCTURAL WUZZLES



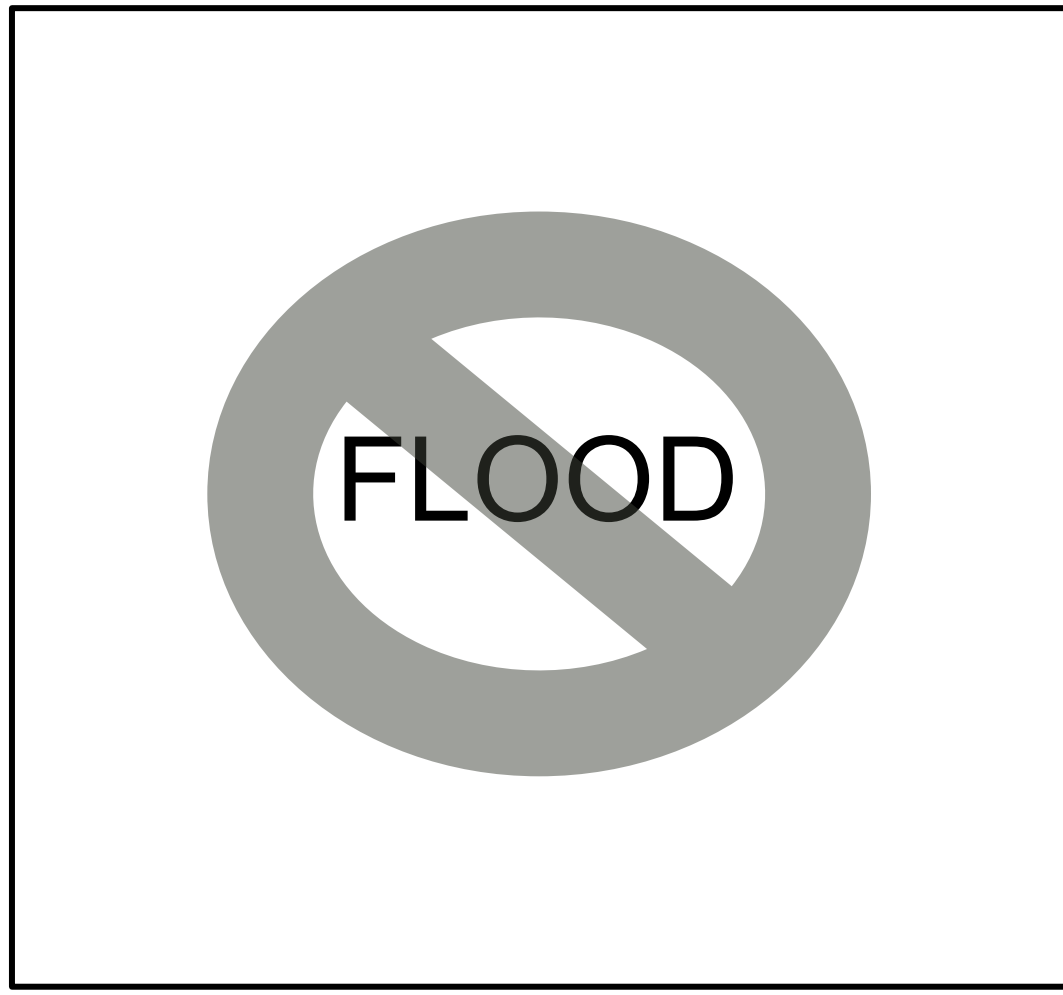


# NONSTRUCTURAL WUZZLES





# NONSTRUCTURAL WUZZLES





# NONSTRUCTURAL WUZZLES





# QUESTIONS

