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HURRICANE KATRINA SURGE INUNDATION and ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION MAP

Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

Map Number: LA-I53

FEMA

OVERVIEW MAP

LEGEND

State Boundary

Parish Boundary

Flood Advisory Related Data

Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Zone, including Flood Zone Type (AE, or VE), and elevation (in feet)[2]

3 ft Above HEAG Criterion Applies

Vertical Control Point[1]

Levee

Hurricane Katrina Related Data

Preliminary Indoor High Water Mark[2,3]

Preliminary Outdoor High Water Mark[2,3]

Preliminary Debris High Water Mark[2,3]

Limit of Katrina Surge Inundation[3]

Date of Event: August 29, 2005
Date of Map: June 5, 2006

0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000

Feet

Data Sources:

Aerial Imagery:
USDA National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2004
Flood Zones and Elevations:
FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (Plaquemines Parish, 1993)
High Water Marks:
FEMA (Identified and surveyed Sept-Dec., 2005)
Vertical Control Monuments:
National Geodetic Survey
Storm Track:
NOAA National Weather Service

HOW TO READ THIS MAP

In levee-protected areas, **the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) to be used for rebuilding at a particular property is the higher of these two options:**

(1) Current, effective Base Flood Elevation (BFE) shown on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), or
(2) 3 feet above Highest Existing Adjacent Grade (HEAG) at the building site. The HEAG is defined as the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

Using the best-available data, FEMA has mapped the areas of the Parish where each of these two options should be applied:

– In green-shaded areas, FEMA recommends that the first floor of the building (including basement) be elevated 3 feet above HEAG at the building site.

– Outside of green-shaded areas, FEMA recommends that the first floor of the building (including basement) be elevated at or above the BFE shown on the community's FIRM. FEMA has provided the current BFEs on the map above in yellow and black text (for example, "**EL 1.5 ft**"). The zone or area where each BFE applies is outlined in yellow; these zone boundaries are the same as those shown on the FIRM. If the FIRM does not have a BFE for a particular area, no elevation will be listed on the map above. In those cases, buildings should be elevated to 3 feet above HEAG.

Anywhere in the Parish, the Community Floodplain Administrator may determine a site-specific ABFE rather than rely on the information mapped above. Using detailed topographic data for the site, the Floodplain Administrator can determine what elevation corresponds with 3 feet above HEAG and compare it to the FIRM BFE. Again, FEMA's guidance is that buildings should be elevated to **whichever of those two elevations is higher at the site.**

For more information on how the ABFE guidance was determined for this Parish, please see: ***http://www.fema.gov/pdf/hazard/flood/recoverydata/plaquemines_parish04-12-06.pdf.***

Notes:

[1] Measured in feet relative to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88).

[2] Measured in feet relative to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD29). Studies show significant variability of the conversion factor between NGVD29 and the NAVD88 in Plaquemines Parish. Map users should refer to the parish-specific FEMA Flood Recovery guidance for further information.

[3] Inundation limits estimated from surveyed, surge-only High Water Marks. Local wave effects (wave heights and wave runup) are not included in these elevations.

MAPS FOR ADVISORY PURPOSES ONLY - NOT FOR INSURANCE RATING PURPOSES

For insurance rating purposes, refer to the currently effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), available from your local government or the FEMA Map Service Center (1-800-358-9616/ http://msc.fema.gov)

For more information on these advisory maps, please see http://www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/recoverydata/katrina/katrina_la_index.shtm