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Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration Monitoring Storm Surge Conditions as Ike Approaches

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BATON ROUGE, La. (September 11, 2008) - The Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration is working closely with levee c Engineers officials to direct necessary resources and monitor storm surge levels as Hurricane Ike moves into the central Gu

New Orleans area levee districts reported Thursday morning, Sept. 11, the closing of 21 flood gates in the New C anticipation of additional closings as storm surge levels continue to rise through Saturday, Sept. 13.

Railroad companies have been notified that the need to close gates crossing rail lines is anticipated as early as Thursday af

The Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority West is anticipating the closure of all floodgates on the West Bank of (Parish as early as Thursday afternoon.

Flooding in low lying areas of St. Bernard Parish outside the New Orleans Area Hurricane Protection System near the t Hopedale and Yscloskey has been reported.

Contractors and parish officials in Plaquemines Parish working to repair the levee breech on the "Citrus Lands Levee" on parish reported that the breech caused by Hurricane Gustav has been filled with Hesco sand baskets and closed. Additional placed on the crown of the levee and were placed on the exterior of the levee to provide additional armoring. Officials were rising on the exterior of the levee Thursday morning.

Work being performed by both the Corps of Engineers and OCPR contractors to repair scour areas on Grand Isle caused halted due to worsening weather conditions. OCPR contractors were working to add additional rock jetties to provide ship the east end of Grand Isle through Wednesday night. High seas and rising storm surges from Ike have suspended that wor after Ike's passing.

The Corps of Engineers halted work on repairs to the Grand Isle beach levee Wednesday as well. The Corps has reported and scour areas on the Grand Isle beach have been filled with sand bags to help prevent further erosion from Ike. Tropical expected at Grand Isle through Saturday with possible storm surges exceeding six feet.

OCPR officials say over-toppings or breeches of parish levees in the lower Terrebonne Parish area near the towns Aux-Chenes and Chauvin are possible.

Floodgates in Lafourche Parish on Bayou Lafourche at Golden Meadow have been closed. Floodgates have been closed in Bayou Little Caillou and Bayou Terrebonne.

Storm surge heights are forecast to increase to nine feet or more in the central and western parts of coastal Louisia warning has been issued for the entire Louisiana coast with a hurricane warning issued for central and western Louisiana St. Mary Parish through Cameron Parish and extending through the Central Texas coast.

Levee condition updates will be provided as they are obtained.

For the latest information on Hurricane Gustav, visit emergency.louisiana.gov.

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http://emergency.louisiana.gov/Releases/091108CoastalUpdate.html

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