

## Operation Reports for Caernarvon FW diversion 2006

**Date:** May 11, 2006

**Subject:** Caernarvon Operations  
Caernarvon Interagency Advisory Committee:

The diversion structure has been flowing at a rate of 3,500 to 4,000 cfs, and will remain there until the back levee repairs in the vicinity of Scarsdale and Braithwaite are completed by the COE. It was anticipated that these repairs would now be near completion; however, delays in contract procurement has extended the completion date considerably. The repairs have not yet started; it is estimated that construction should take between 40 and 50 days. As last reported, strong east winds combined with the operation of Scarsdale Pump Station, causes water levels to rise in the areas of those levee breaches that have been temporarily repaired. Because of this, we have not been able to flow the agreed on 5,000 cfs. Should we experience a cool front along with a strong north wind we may increase the flow to approach 5,000 cfs. This agreed on plan will remain in affect until the COE completes its levee work. Until that time, our structure operations contractor, along with the Parish, continue to make daily inspections of those areas to make sure that no problems arise, and the water height in those damaged areas doesn't exceed a safe level.

Recently, there has been a malfunction of gate #2. The mechanism that raises and lowers the gate striped a large brass holding nut that houses the gate stem, and the gate slowly lowered to the closed position. We immediately closed the #4 gate and are now operating on Gates #1,3,and 5. The COE was notified, and is scheduling the mobilization of their floating crane to repair the gate. The structure may have to be closed for 24 to 48 hours for this operation.

I will keep you informed as to the progress of the repairs, both to the levees as well as to the repairs to the Diversion Structure gate. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Tom Bernard, P.E.

**Date:** May 31, 2006

**Subject:** Caernarvon Operations  
Caernarvon Interagency Advisory Committee:

The diversion structure has been flowing at a rate of 2,500 to 4,000 cfs, and salinities now remain in an acceptable range. On or about June 10<sup>th</sup>, we plan to reduce the flow to 2,000 cfs. The reason for this proposed reduction is:

- a) To allow some of the shallow ponds created by the hurricane, that have remained flooded since January, to temporarily drain which will induce re-vegetation in those areas.
- b) This should also coincide with the structure repair on gate #2 which will require the COE to completely close the structure 2 to 3 days.
- c) The COE is awarding a contract to repair the back levee breaches located at Braithwaite and Scarsdale, and would like the water levels to be reduced to facilitate construction in those areas.
- d) The Delacroix Corporation has requested a slight reduction in flowage over their property to accommodate their annual alligator egg harvesting season.

There may be times during the next 60 to 90 days when whether conditions will allow flows to be increased above the planned target flow. We will take advantage of every opportunity if and when this occurs while remaining in compliance with the approved operational plan.

I will keep you informed as to the progress of the repairs, both to the levees as well as to the repairs to the Diversion Structure gate. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Tom Bernard, P.E.

Cell 504-239-3951

**Date:** June 29, 2006

**Subject:** Caernarvon Operations  
Caernarvon Interagency Advisory Committee:

The diversion structure has been flowing at an average rate of 2,000 and salinities continue remain in an acceptable range. On or about June 10<sup>th</sup>, we had planned to reduce the flow to 2,000 cfs. for the reasons previously given in the last advisory; however, the river stages fell and we had very little choice in reducing the flow on our own.

The COE has awarded a contract to repair the three levee breaches behind Scarsdale and Braithwaite. The Notice to Proceed was issued on June 26<sup>th</sup> and the contract is scheduled to be complete by October 16<sup>th</sup>. This is one of the problems that will not affect our flow during the next season.

Delacroix Corp. has informed us that their alligator egg harvesting period will be completed by mid July. This is another one of our concerns that will be eliminated soon.

The other two concerns, allowing the marsh to drain somewhat to promote vegetation to take root, and closing the structure to allow the COE to repair gate #2, will also take care of themselves as the river continues to fall.

There is a; however, a rise in the river forecast, which we will start to see within the next 7 to 10 days. We will monitor the flow very carefully as not to interfere with the above mentioned work that will be taking place.

I will keep you informed as to the progress of the repairs, both to the levees as well as to the repairs to the Diversion Structure gate. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Tom Bernard, P.E.

LDNR Project Operations Manager

Coastal Engineering Division

La. Department of Natural Resources

CERM, Suite 309

2045 Lakeshore Dr.

New Orleans, La. 70122

Phone 225-342-9421--Temp. Baton Rouge No.

Cell 504-239-3951