

Subsidence, Coastal Protection and Wetland Restoration in Louisiana
“A Levee Manager’s Perspective”

South Louisiana communities support 30% of the lower 48 states fisheries, 25% of the U.S. oil needs, shipbuilding and the water borne trade of the mid west through ports along the Mississippi River. Subsidence is a threat to these communities and the services they perform for the nation.

Our goal has always been to integrate the needs of our wetland and flood protection. Both act as essential infrastructure on land which was created by the flow and sediments of the Mississippi River.

Due to subsidence and other factors new work has been necessary to protect our wetlands and our flood protection projects. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and Tropical Storm Cindy illustrate the challenges and risks to our communities.