

ABSTRACT

Lower Elevations, Higher Expectations

The changes in elevation in South Louisiana have made decision making, from infrastructure projects to hurricane evacuation, more difficult. As the difference between land height and sea level diminish, the need for accurate elevation increases. Flood surge maps must be more accurate because evacuation times are reduced. Floodplain management of all structures in South Louisiana becomes less manageable due to the fast changing elevation of our deltaic platform. Over the last 100 years, communities have responded in several different ways to lower elevations. Accurate future loss predictions are essential to deal intelligently with our changing landscape and our ability to respond appropriately.

Speaking Points

- FEMA Elevation Requirements
- Hurricane Evacuation
- Hurricane Protection
- Infrastructure needs
- Economic Maintenance
- Cultural Effects