The Flood Protection Authority’s highest priority is the protection of families, businesses and property from flooding and structural damage that result from hurricanes and other flood events.

The Flood Protection Authority operates and maintains the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System, the Mississippi River and Tributaries levees and floodwalls, and the interior levees protecting the Metropolitan New Orleans area.

The Flood Protection Authority is responsible for three active levee districts on the east bank of the Mississippi River: East Jefferson Levee District, Lake Borgne Basin Levee District and Orleans Levee District.

The Flood Protection Authority is continuously working to investigate, develop and implement new technologies to manage and monitor a world class state-of-the-art flood protection system, and to construct improvements to reduce residual risks and provide a higher level of protection.

The Flood Protection Authority was established after Hurricane Katrina as the regional governmental body responsible for a restored, strengthened and enhanced multi-parish integrated hurricane and flood protection system.

The Flood Protection Authority’s mission is to ensure the physical, operational and financial integrity of the regional flood risk management system, and to work with appropriate local, regional, state and federal agencies and officials to plan, design, construct, operate and maintain projects that will reduce the probability and consequences of flooding in its jurisdiction.

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The IHNC Surge Barrier is the largest continuous storm surge barrier in the world. The concrete barrier wall is located at the confluence of the MRGO and GIWW and stretches 1.8 miles across the Golden Triangle Marsh. The FPA is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the surge barrier and the navigational gates that are a part of the flood defense system.

The Flood Protection Authority’s (FPA) team of dedicated knowledgeable, professional and skilled employees work seamlessly together to ensure the integrity and operation of all features of the flood defense system.

The FPA maintains a total of 191 miles of federal and non-federal riverine and hurricane flood protection levees and floodwalls.

The FPA also operates and maintains 253 land based floodgates, 100 valves, 56 miles of canals, 5.4 miles of seawall, eight pump stations and eight navigation flood control structures (IHNC Surge Barrier Sector and Barge Gates; Bayou Bienvenue Vertical Lift Gate and Sector Gate; Seabrook Complex; and Bayou Bienvenue, Bayou St. John and Caernarvon Sector Gates.)

A higher level of hurricane and flood protection beyond the 100-year level is achievable through construction and reinforcement of stronger, sustainable levees, floodwalls, floodgates and pumps, as well as advancement of long-term coastal protection and restoration. The Flood Protection Authority will work to secure the future of the Pontchartrain Basin, re-establish self-sustained habitats and enhance storm protection.