



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Galveston District

News Release

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Corps of Engineers to undertake repair work at Addicks and Barker dams

The Galveston District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, began work today to repair the culverts for the water control structures at Addicks and Barker dams in west Houston. These repairs were initially planned for this summer; however, Corps officials decided to accelerate the planned repairs due to the high discharges now occurring from Addicks Reservoir. These repairs will further ensure the stability of the culverts used to empty the flood waters from the reservoir.

“While there is no danger to the public due to the culverts needing repair, we want to ensure that we keep it that way,” said Colonel David C. Weston, Galveston District commander. “We are taking proactive steps to fix this issue before problems can develop with the dams. “

The work involves the injection of a urethane substance under portions of the culverts to provide them with additional support. The work should proceed rapidly after it begins and should have little impact on the emptying of the reservoirs.

The work is being done by Uretek ICR Gulf Coast under a \$499,320 contract and is expected to last approximately one week.

“Over the past few days, the incoming flows into Addicks and Barker reservoirs have decreased tremendously and we are now discharging more water from the reservoirs than what is coming in,” said Richard Long, Addicks and Barker reservoirs manager with the Galveston District. “This allows us to begin a slow lowering of the flood waters stored behind the dams and remove the flood waters from State Highway 6 and Eldridge Parkway in Addicks Reservoir.”

Addicks and Barker Reservoirs were built in the 1940s to provide flood risk management, delaying the flow of floodwaters down Buffalo Bayou from its upper watershed. Both reservoirs are normally kept dry to preserve their overall capacity to impound storm water and reduce flood levels in Buffalo Bayou. The gates are closed to reduce flooding below the reservoirs. When the downstream runoff has receded to non-damaging stages, reservoir operations are resumed, the gates are opened and water is released.

The Corps’ Galveston District includes the Houston area.