

Project Description:

The Perry Ridge West project is a shoreline protection project comprised of 1,199 acres of fresh and intermediate marsh located in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. The project area is bounded to the south by the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) from Perry Ridge west to the Sabine River. Currently, 521 acres of the 1,199 total acres are classified as emergent marsh, and the remaining 678 acres are classified as shallow open water.

This area has exhibited tremendous wetland vegetation loss since 1956, as indicated by habitat change analyses conducted by the USGS National Wetlands Research Center (NWRC) and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR). If no action is taken, the estimate of wetland loss during the next 20 years is 385 acres, or 79% of the remaining emergent marsh area. The GIWW is the dominant hydrologic influence in the project area, the construction of which has caused the area to become a tidal system. The use of doublewide barges, allowed in the section of the GIWW adjacent to the project area, has accelerated wave-induced erosion of the remaining spoil bank and marsh vegetation. The current rate of shoreline erosion along the GIWW is 3.9 ft/yr.

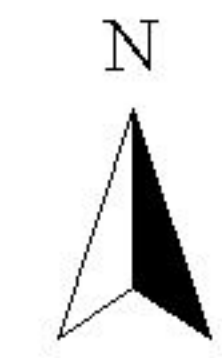
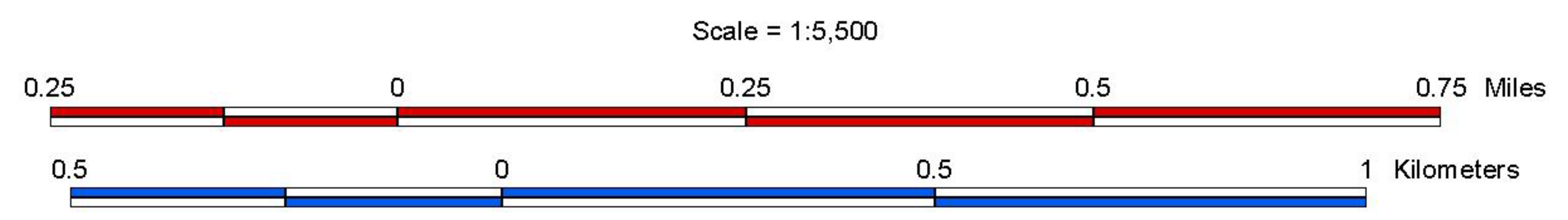
This project will protect the shoreline of the project area through the use of 12,000 linear feet of free standing rock dike, which will run parallel to the existing shoreline approximately 60 feet from the bank. The length of the rock dike includes 9,500 linear feet along the north bank of the GIWW and an additional 2,500 feet north along the Sabine River. The project also includes features that would classify it not only as a shoreline protection project, but also a vegetative planting and terracing project. A total of 22,952 linear feet of shallow water terraces with a minimum 4-foot top width will be constructed in open-water areas in the interior emergent marsh to reduce wave energy, retain sediments and maintain SAV habitat.

Class	Project Acres
Land	521
Water	678
Total	1,199



Prepared by:
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 U.S. Geological Survey
 National Wetlands Research Center
 Lafayette, LA
 and
 Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
 Coastal Restoration Division
 Lafayette Field Office

Data Source:
 The land-water data were obtained from 1:12,000 scale, color infrared aerial photography aquired November 17, 2001. The data were overlaid on a 1998 Digital Orthophoto Quadrangle at 1:5,500.



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 U.S. Department of Agriculture
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