Lake Salvador Shore Protection Demonstration (BA-15)

**Project Status**

**Approved Date:** 1993  
**Project Area:** N/A  
**Approved Funds:** $2.80 M  
**Total Est. Cost:** $2.80 M  
**Net Benefit After 20 Years:** N/A  
**Status:** Completed June 1998  
**Project Type:** Demonstration: Shoreline Protection  
**PPL #:** 3

**Location**

The project is located on the southwest end of Lake Salvador near Des Allemands in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. It encompasses approximately 1,200 acres.

**Problems**

The Lake Salvador area has experienced high rates of land loss caused by a documented shoreline erosion rate (1953-83) that averaged 13 feet per year. This chronic erosion has breached the lake shoreline in several locations, exposing fragile, highly organic marsh substrates to increased wave and tidal energy.

**Restoration Strategy**

Phase 1 of the project tested four types of shoreline protection structures along a section of the northern lakeshore to determine their effectiveness in reducing shoreline erosion.

To the south, Phase 2 constructed a 9,000 foot rock shoreline stabilization structure along a section of the western lakeshore to protect the shoreline and adjacent marsh from wave-induced erosion.

**Progress to Date**

Monitoring of the Phase 1 area indicated that none of the tested designs showed a reduction in shoreline erosion rates; however, the demonstration was helpful in determining the relative stability of the tested structures and therefore their possible use (or application) for shorelines that cannot be protected with rock.

The phase 2 structure (rock) has successfully reduced the shoreline erosion rate. Monitoring has indicated not only a halt in erosion, but a shoreline gain of 1.8 feet per year. This project is on Priority Project List 3.

*For more project information, please contact:*

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**Local Sponsor:**  
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