

Lake Salvador Shore Protection Demonstration (BA-15)

Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force

October 2002

Cost figures as of: July 2025

Project Status

Approved Date:1993Project Area:N/AApproved Funds:\$3 MTotal Est. Cost:\$3 MNet Benefit After 20 Years:N/AStatus:Completed June1998Project Type:Demonstration:Shoreline ProtectionPPL #: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.



Installation of an erosion control structure during Phase 1 of the Lake Salvador restoration project.



Phase 2 of the Lake Salvador restoration project. The rock structure shown was installed to help stabilize the shoreline, allow sediment trapping, and promote marsh development.

For more information, please contact:







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