rev. February 2008
Cost figures as of: February 2023

Jonathan Davis Wetland Protection (BA-20)

Project Status

Approved Date: 1993 **Project Area:** 7,199 acres
Approved Funds: $28.8 M **Total Est. Cost:** $28.8 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 510 acres
Status: Construction
Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration
PPL #: 2

Location

The project is located in Jefferson Parish, immediately west of Lafitte, Louisiana.

Problems

Maintenance of the wetlands that separate Lake Salvador from the more saline region of the Barataria basin to the south is of paramount importance to the future of the estuary. Wetlands in the project area are increasingly threatened by a transition to more tidally influenced conditions that produce high rates of wetland loss in these low salinity marshes because of their highly organic, soft soil conditions. Due to open oil and gas canals and their position within the basin, this area is predictably at risk of high wetland loss.

Restoration Strategy

This hydrologic restoration project contains structural measures that were designed to improve hydrologic conditions and provide shoreline protection along the southern project boundary. A series of water control structures (shown on map) reduce rapid water exchange and tidal energies, and the shoreline protection provides a stable buffer for the interior marsh from the wave action along Bayou Perot and Bayou Rigolettes. The project will be constructed in four units. The first unit will install the majority of the water control structures. The second unit will install the remaining structures and a segment of shoreline protection. The remaining units will install the bank protection along the southern boundary.

Fragile, highly organic marsh is vulnerable to increased erosive energy caused by tidal fluctuation. Structural measures associated with the project will improve hydrologic conditions by decreasing the amplitude of tidal events.

Progress to Date

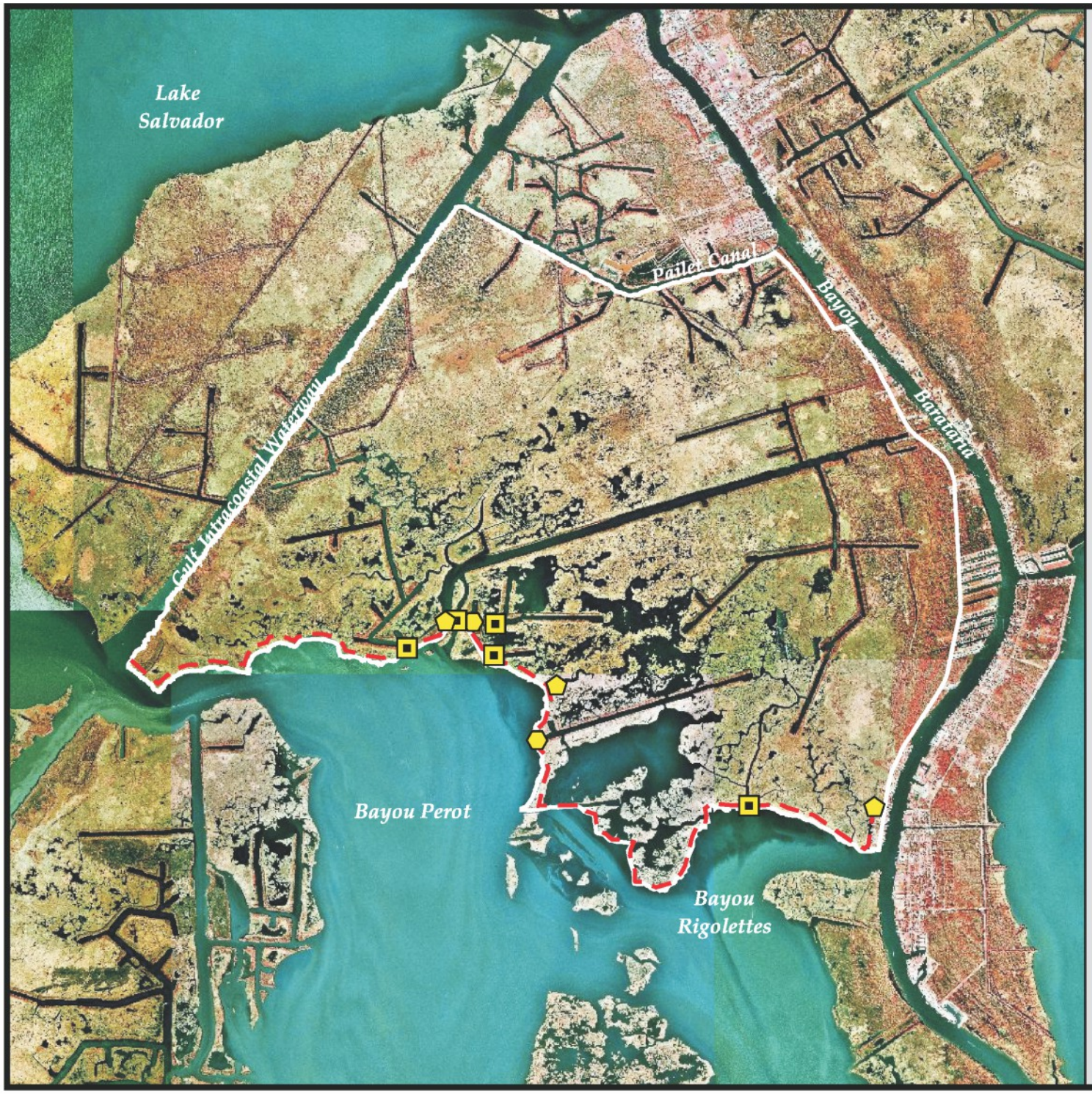
The construction of the first unit began in June 1998 and was completed in September 1998. Unit 2 was completed in May 2001. Construction of Unit 3 began in January 2003. Unit 4 was revised due to storm activity. Construction is now scheduled to begin in the spring of 2008 and to be completed in the spring of 2009.

This project is on Priority Project List 2.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Alexandria, LA
(318) 473-7756

Local Sponsor:
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-4736



Jonathan Davis Wetland Protection (BA-20)

- Plug
- Weir
- Weir with Boat Bay
- Shoreline Protection
- Project Boundary

N

0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

0.5 0 0.5 1 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: October 6, 2003
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-053
Data accurate as of: October 6, 2003