Project Status
Approved Date: 2018  Project Area: 687 acres
Approved Funds: $3.95 M  Total Est. Cost: $44.1 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 372 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection
PPL #: 27

Location
This project is located in Region 2, Barataria Basin, Jefferson Parish, northeast of Turtle Bay.

Problems
Historic wetland loss in the area occurs in the form of shoreline erosion along Turtle Bay and interior marsh loss. The interior loss is caused by subsidence, sediment deprivation, and construction of access and pipeline canals. Based on analysis conducted by the USGS, loss rates in the area are estimated to be -0.97% per year for the period 1984 to 2016. Shoreline erosion along the northeast shore of Turtle Bay, in the area addressed by this project, is approximately 5 feet per year. While this rate may not seem excessive, this reach of shoreline is very narrow and loss of this shoreline would connect Turtle Bay to a large lagoon, greatly altering the hydrology of the marsh.

Restoration Strategy
The proposed project would create approximately 377 acres and nourish approximately 300 acres of marsh using sediment dredged from Turtle Bay. Two types of containment will be utilized for this project: semi-contained and fully contained. For the semi-contained portion, there will be approximately 42 acres of marsh creation and 86 acres of marsh nourishment. For the fully contained portion, there will be approximately 335 acres of marsh creation and 214 acres of marsh nourishment. Containment dikes will be degraded as necessary to reestablish hydrologic connectivity with adjacent wetlands. Approximately 2,870 feet of critical shoreline would be protected and two channel liners would be installed to prevent further enlargement of two primary water exchange points. Maintenance of the shoreline protection feature and channel liners would be included. In case the area does not re-vegetate on its own, the maintenance cost estimate includes funds to plant 25% of the created marsh at Year 3.

Progress to Date
This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design on February 9th, 2018.

This project is on Priority Project List (PPL) 27.

For more information, please contact:

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

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

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