



# Grand Bayou Ridge and Marsh Restoration (BA-217)

## Project Status

**Approved Date:** 2019      **Project Area:** 258 acres  
**Approved Funds:** \$51.1 M    **Total Est. Cost:** \$52.3 M  
**Net Benefit After 20 Years:** 225 acres  
**Status:** Construction  
**Project Type:** Marsh Creation  
**PPL #:** 28

## Location

Region 2, Barataria Basin, Plaquemines Parish

## Problems

Within the Lake Hermitage basin, between Bayou Grande Cheniere and the Mississippi River, significant marsh loss has occurred with the construction of oil/gas canals, subsidence, and sediment deprivation. From examination of aerial photography, the majority of this loss occurred during the 1960s and 1970s when numerous oil/gas canals were dredged in the area. Based on a land loss analysis conducted by USGS, the loss rate in the project area was -0.93% per year for the period 1984-2020.

## Restoration Strategy

The primary goals of this project are; 1) restore marsh habitat in the open water areas via marsh creation and 2) restore forested ridge habitat along Grand Bayou.

Sediment will be hydraulically dredged in the Mississippi River in an area referred to as the Magnolia Anchorage. The total project footprint (including the earthen ridge) encompasses 258 acres of open water and remnant marsh. Approximately 249 acres of marsh will be created/nourished. Dredged material (1.9M cubic yards) will be placed to a constructed marsh fill elevation of +2.5 ft NAVD88. Perimeter containment dikes will be constructed from in-situ material and will be gapped at the end of construction to reestablish hydrologic connectivity with adjacent wetlands.

The ridge feature consists of 8,523 LF (9 acres) and will be constructed to an elevation of +4.5 ft. In-situ materials will be used for the first lift and the second lift will be constructed with Mississippi River sediment.



Like other marsh creation projects in the area, sediment from the Mississippi River will be used to create a marsh platform.

## Progress to Date

This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in February 2019. It was approved for construction in January 2023.

This project is on Priority Project List 28.

*For more information, please contact:*



**Federal Sponsor:**  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 Lafayette, LA  
 (337) 291-3100

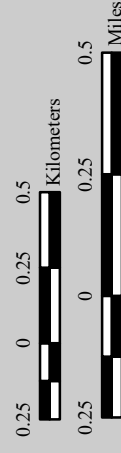
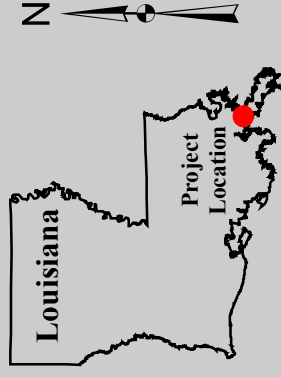


**Local Sponsor:**  
 Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority  
 Baton Rouge, LA  
 (225) 342-4733



# Grand Bayou Ridge and Marsh Restoration (BA-217)

- Ridge Restoration \*
- Marsh Creation \*
- Project Boundary \*
- \*denotes proposed features



Map Produced by:  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center

Background Imagery:  
2021 NAIP Photography

Map Date: September 26, 2022  
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2022-11-0032  
Data accurate as of: August 31, 2022

