Project Status
Approved Date: 1998       Project Area: 297 acres
Approved Funds: $0.34 M     Total Est. Cost: $0.34 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 127 acres
Status: Completed July 2001
Project Type: Vegetative Planting
PPL #: 7

Location
The project is located on west Grand Terre Island at the
mouth of the Barataria Bay Waterway, east of Grand Isle in
Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

Problems
West Grand Terre Island is rapidly eroding at both the beach
front and back bay wetlands. The 1996 and 1998 the U.S.
Army Corps of Engineers’ dredged disposal areas on the
island were almost completely devoid of vegetation. Breaks
in the retention dikes have occurred, allowing tidal
movement into and out of the dredge material disposal site.
Although continued tidal action is important and should be
encouraged, erosion of the enclosed wetland platform could
become severe if a substantial wetland base is not developed.

Restoration Strategy
The objectives of this project are to stabilize the dredged
material platform to maintain the integrity of the island.
Project features included the installation of vegetation
utilizing hand planted nursery grown selected plant species
in May 2001. Vegetation including 35,000 vegetative plugs
of smooth cordgrass and 600 tube containers of black
mangrove planted near the rock containment dike on the
Barataria Bay side of the project area. Additional plantings
on the foredune outside of the disposal area included 3,100
four inch containers each of marshhay cordgrass, bitter
panicum, and gulf cordgrass. Project measures also included
the removal of feral herbivores (approximately 20 goats and
70 cows) from the island to prevent overgrazing and impacts
to native and planted vegetation.

Progress to Date
Vegetative plantings were completed in spring 2001. The
project is currently being monitored.

The project is listed on Priority Project List 7.

Approximately 40 acres of dune were created by this project that provided added
protection to Grand Terre and helped contain the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' beneficia
use of dredged sediment site. Both projects have significantly added to
the longevity of this barrier island.

Approximately 680 acres have benfitted from this project, which included dune
creation and native vegetative plantings along the dune and Corps' beneficia
use site.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
National Marine Fisheries Service
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 389-0508

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

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