



Bayou Thunder Marsh Creation (BA-303)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2026
Approved Funds: 3 M

Project Area: 334 acres
Total Est. Cost: 30 M

Net Benefit After 20 Years: 214 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation

PPL #: 35

Location

Region 2, Barataria Basin, Jefferson Parish

Problems

The Bayou Thunder landform plays a crucial role in safeguarding the Cheniere Caminada community and Louisiana Highway 1, the sole evacuation route for the area. The marshes between Caminada Bay and Louisiana Highway 1 are experiencing both bay shore-line erosion and interior loss from sea level rise, subsidence, and storm fetch. The land loss rate is estimated to be -1.73% per year based on the USGS land change analysis on the project's extended boundary (1984 to 2025). Wetland losses in this area also contribute to local spring tide flooding of the highway.

Restoration Strategy

The project goal is to create 334 acres of intertidal saline marsh (239 acres marsh creation and 95 acres marsh nourishment), providing a resilient buffer between Caminada Bay and Louisiana Highway 1. By rebuilding the Caminada Bay rim, the project protects the highway, a critical hurricane evacuation route. The strategy involves hydraulically dredging sediment from Caminada Bay into three confined disposal areas. Containment dikes will be gapped within three years after construction to reestablish hydrological connectivity and allow fisheries access.

The Bayou Thunder Marsh Creation project is an integral part of the "multiple lines of defense" strategy. Located directly north of existing barrier beach and



Remnant marsh along Bayou Thunder and Louisiana Highway 1. Restoration of the marsh will create intertidal habitat, and provide a buffer between Caminada Bay and the highway.

dune restoration projects, this project adds a vital layer of protection against storm fetch and sea level rise. Restoring the Bayou Thunder landform has been designated a top priority by both the Jefferson Parish Coastal Strategic Action Plan and the Grand Isle Independent Levee District Master Plan.

Progress to Date

This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design on January 15, 2026.

This project is on Priority Project List (PPL) 35.

For more information, please contact:



Federal Sponsor:
National Marine Fisheries Service
Baton Rouge, LA
(601) 890-1338



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



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Bayou Thunder Marsh Creation (PPL35 Candidate)



 Marsh Creation

Note: All features are proposed.



Scale: 1:35,000



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