Project Status

Approved Date: 2002       Project Area: 596 acres
Approved Funds: $40.1 M  Total Est. Cost: $40.7 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 263 acres
Status: Completed
Project Type: Barrier Island Restoration
PPL #: 11

Location

The project is located in the Barataria Basin, between Pass Chaland and Grand Bayou Pass in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

Prior to construction, wetlands, dune, and swale habitats within the project area had undergone substantial loss due to subsidence, absolute sea-level rise, and marine- and wind-induced shoreline erosion. In addition, oil and gas activities, such as pipeline construction, also contributed to the loss. Marine processes acting on the abandoned deltaic headlands rework and redistribute previously deposited sediment. Fragmentary islands develop due to breaches in the barrier headland. Subsequently, increased tidal prism storage (the total volume of salt water that moves in and out of a bay with the tide) and storm-related impacts have led to inlet and pass formation across the newly formed islands. The Bay Joe Wise beach rim was receded and decreased to a critical width that was susceptible to breaching.

Land area in the project area had decreased from 1932 to 2000. Storms occur approximately every 8.3 years along the Barataria shoreline. Because approximately 100 feet of shoreline is eroded with each storm, shorelines of 100 feet or less are considered in imminent danger of breaching.

Progress to Date

This project was selected for Phase I (engineering and design) funding at the January 2002 Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force meeting and was selected for Phase II (construction) funding at the February 2006 Task Force meeting. Construction was completed in 2009.

This project is listed on Priority Project List 11.

For more information, please contact:

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Local Sponsor:
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