Dedicated Dredging on the Barataria Basin Landbridge (BA-36)

Location
The project is located in the Barataria Basin within Jefferson Parish, 7 miles southwest of Lafitte. It is located at the southern end of Bayous Perot and Rigolettes on both sides of the Harvey Cut. The approved CWPPRA project footprint of 1,246 acres was expanded to a total of 2,789 acres as a result of additional project funds and excess material.

Problems
The upper portion of the Barataria Basin is largely a freshwater-dominated system of natural levee ridges, swamps, and fresh marsh. Marine and tidal processes (along with barrier islands, saline and brackish marshes, tidal channels, large bays, and lakes) dominate the lower portion of the basin. Historically, a small, meandering Bayou Perot and the longer and narrower Bayou Dupont, Bayou Barataria, and Bayou Villars channels provided limited hydrologic connection between the upper and lower basin. However, those hydrologic connections are much greater today because of the Barataria Bay Waterway, Bayou Segnette Waterway, and the Harvey Cut. In addition, substantial erosion and interior marsh loss between the enlarged Perot and Rigolettes bayous have also contributed to the problem.

The project area has been experiencing annual land loss rates of roughly 2.5% in recent years, mostly due to interior marsh deterioration and wind and wave induced erosion.

The previously approved Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project (BBLSSP) will protect the project area from the high wave energy of the Perot and Rigolettes bayous, but the interior wetlands will continue to deteriorate from subsidence, sea-level rise, and excessive tidal exchange. The Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion Project will freshen this area, possibly converting it from brackish to intermediate marsh. However, Davis Pond will not add land-building sediments to this area, and marsh deterioration will continue even under the freshened conditions.

For more project information, please contact:

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Local Sponsor:
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Cost figures as of: October 2019