September 2022
Cost figures as of: February 2023

East Delacroix Marsh Creation and Terracing (BS-37)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2019 **Project Area:** 576 acres
Approved Funds: $3.64 M **Total Est. Cost**: $39.8 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 306 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 28

Location

This project is located in Region 2, Breton Basin, St. Bernard Parish.

Problems

Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ida caused the majority of wetland loss in the project area. Wind erosion and saltwater intrusion have resulted in loss of marsh vegetation and wetland soils. Marsh loss has increased exposure of Delacroix to flooding from the east/southeast. The 1984 to 2021 USGS loss rate is -1.64%/yr for the extended project boundary area.

Drone image of the marsh creation area facing northeast.

Restoration Strategy

The project goal is to create and nourish approximately 414 acres of marsh and construct approximately 18,880 linear feet of terraces (approximately 15 acres) utilizing a layout to help protect the community of Delacroix.

Sediment would be hydraulically dredged from Lake Lery and placed in two confined disposal areas creating 350 acres of marsh and nourishing 64 acres of existing marsh. Two creation cells allow a channel for the existing pump station. Project features will include a terrace field and sediment retention terrace (SRT) that total 15 acres of created marsh. The terrace field will include 30 terraces totaling 15,000 linear feet. The SRT will extend to the northeast from the marsh creation cells and total 3,880 linear feet. The SRT will include two 50-foot gaps to allow passage of aquatic organisms and tidal flushing. Dewatering will occur behind the SRT to take advantage of sediment-laden water. The SRT will connect to the North Delacroix Marsh Creation and Terracing Project (BS-41) and be utilized in the same way. The side and crown of the terraces would be planted with appropriate bare root plants in one row per side and crown.

Progress to Date

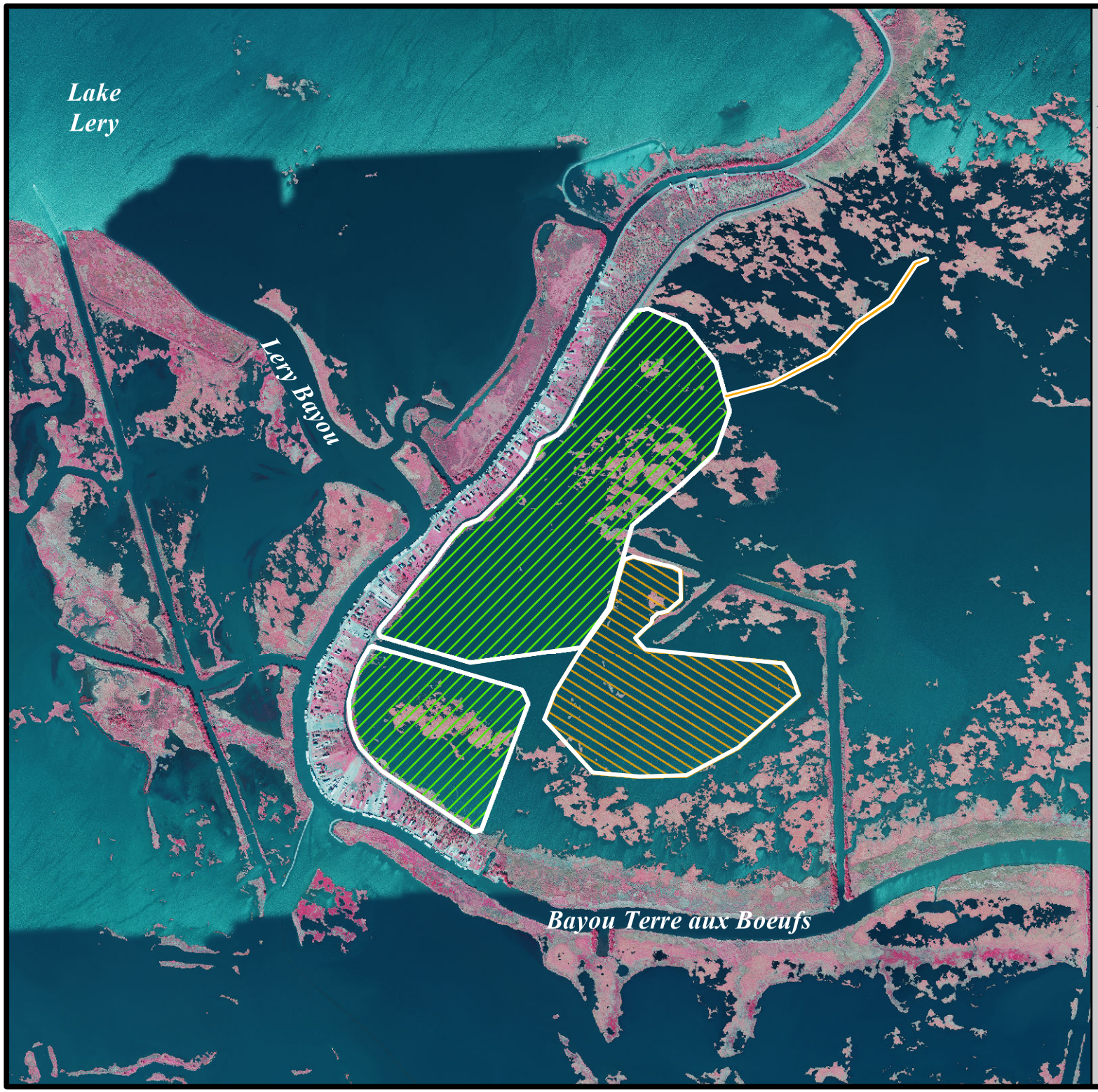
This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in February 2019.

The project is on Priority Project List (PPL) 28.

For more 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) 342-4733



East Delacroix Island Marsh Creation (BS-37)

- Terrace Field *
- Marsh Creation & Nourishment *
- Sediment Retention Terrace *
- Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world

0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Kilometers

0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Miles

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: August 30, 2022
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