Project Status

Approved Date: 2021  
Project Area: 411 acres  
Approved Funds: $1.05 M  
Total Est. Cost: $41.2 M  
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 307 acres  
Status: Engineering and Design  
Project Type: Marsh Creation  
PPL #: 30

Location

This project is located in Region 2, Breton Sound Basin, Plaquemines Parish.

Problems

Within the project vicinity, marsh loss has occurred as the result of oil/gas canals, subsidence, and a lack of sediment deposition. The USGS land change rate (1984 to 2019) is -0.65% per year. Hurricane Katrina 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, and altered hydrology and oil/gas development have exacerbated this loss.

Restoration Strategy

The primary goal of the project is to restore marsh habitat in the open water areas between River aux Chênes and Bayou Garelle through the placement of dredged material via hydraulic dredging. The project would create continuity with the Phoenix Marsh Creation–East Increment Project (BS-42) and would work synergistically with the Breton Landbridge Marsh Creation (West) Project (BS-38). Both projects are located to the east and along the alignment of the Breton Sound Basin Landbridge. The specific goal is to hydraulically dredge riverine sediments from the Mississippi River and pump the sediments via pipeline to create 323 acres of marsh and nourish an additional 88 acres of marsh. The target construction elevation is +2.0 feet NAVD88 which, after dewatering and consolidation of dredged sediments, should produce elevations conducive to the establishment of emergent marsh. Full perimeter containment is proposed. During Phase 1, opportunities to use existing marsh as containment would be investigated. Containment dikes will be gapped at the end of construction or by TY3.

Progress to Date

This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in January 2021.

This project is on Priority Project List (PPL) 30.

For more information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Lafayette, LA  
(337) 291-3100

Local Sponsor:  
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority  
Baton Rouge, LA  
(225) 342-4733