Cameron Meadows
Marsh Creation and Terracing (CS-66)

Project Status
Approved Date: 2013
Project Area: 499 acres
Approved Funds: $37.6 M
Total Est. Cost: $38.7 M FFC; $34.4M Phase II, Increment I
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 292 acres
Status: Construction
Project Type: Marsh Creation & Terracing
PPL #: 22

Location
Region 4, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin, Cameron Parish, approximately five miles northeast of Johnson Bayou and five miles north of the Gulf of Mexico.

Problems
Significant marsh loss in the Cameron Meadows area is attributed to rapid fluid and gas extraction beginning in 1931, as well as Hurricanes Rita and Ike. Rapid fluid and gas extraction resulted in a surface down warping along distinguished geologic fault lines. During the hurricanes of 2005 and 2008, the physical removal of the marsh coupled with subsequent low rainfall has resulted in the conversion of intermediate to brackish marsh to approximately 7,000 acres of open water. In addition to these losses, significant marsh loss has resulted from saltwater intrusion and hydrologic changes associated with storm damages.

Restoration Strategy
The goal of the project is to restore approximately 400 acres of coastal marsh habitat and reduce the fetch by constructing approximately 12,150 linear feet of earthen terraces.

Sediment will be hydraulically dredged from the Gulf of Mexico and pumped via pipeline to create approximately 380 acres of marsh (295 acres confined disposal and 85 acres unconfined disposal). Funds are included to plant approximately 180 acres. Approximately 12,150 linear feet of earthen terraces will be constructed in a sinusoidal layout to reduce fetch and wind-generated wave erosion. Terraces will be constructed to +3.0 feet NA VD88, 15 feet crown width, and planted. Terrace acreage will result in four acres of marsh above Mean Low Water.

For more information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
National Marine Fisheries Service
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 389-0508

Local Sponsor:
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
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(225) 342-4733

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