



South Grand Chenier Marsh Creation - Baker Tract (ME-32)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2014 **Project Area:** 401 acres
Approved Funds: \$34 M **Total Est. Cost:** \$35 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 282 acres
Status: Construction
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 23

Location

The project is located in Region 4, Mermentau Basin in Cameron Parish within the Hog Bayou Watershed. The project is bordered by Lower Mud Lake to the west, the Gulf to the south, Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge to the east, and Louisiana Highway 82 to the north.

Problems

Marshes within the Hog Bayou Watershed are stressed due to limited freshwater input and seasonal salinity spikes exacerbated by construction of the Mermentau Ship Channel. Other contributors to land loss in the area are subsidence, compaction, and erosion of organic soils. Currently, the project area is characterized as large, open water with degraded areas of wetland vegetation and low organic production. The dredging of the Mermentau Ship Channel increased tidal amplitude and salt water intrusion into the watershed.

Restoration Strategy

The goal of the project is to create new wetland habitat, restore degraded marsh, and reduce wave erosion of organic soils. The project would promote the expansion of emergent marsh and submerged aquatic vegetation throughout the project area. Material dredged from the Gulf of Mexico will be used to create and nourish approximately 401 acres of marsh.



View of ME-32 project area of vast open water with very little marsh vegetation.

Progress to Date

This project is on Priority Project List 23. The project was approved for Phase II Construction in January 2024.

For more information, please contact:




Federal Sponsor:
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Alexandria, LA
 (318) 473-7751




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

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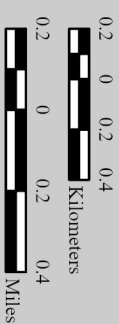
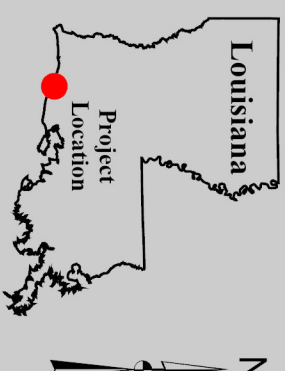


Marsh Creation *



Project Boundary *

* denotes proposed features



Map Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:
2021 NAIP Photography

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