



Grand Chenier Marsh Creation and Terracing Project (ME-42)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2025
Approved Funds: 2.9M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 256
Status: Planning
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 34

Project Area: 256
Total Est. Cost: 26 M

Location

Region 4, Mermentau Basin, Cameron Parish, south of Louisiana Highway 82 (LA 82) in Grand Chenier.

Problems

The marshes within the Hog Bayou Watershed have deteriorated to mostly open water due to limited freshwater input/saltwater intrusion, storm damage, and impoundments associated with land use practices. There is little marsh left over a broad area that stretches from the Gulf up to LA 82, which makes the community of Grand Chenier vulnerable to elevated tidal events, even during normal high tides and tropical storms. As a result, the cheniers are more exposed and have experienced increased storm degradation as evidenced by live oak “ghost forests” that line the highway. The regional loss rate is -0.87% per year according to the USGS evaluation of the extended boundary area.

Restoration Strategy

The primary goal of this project is to create/nourish marsh habitat in the northern portion of the watershed immediately south of LA 82. The project will be designed to be synergistic with other restoration projects in the watershed that provide protection to the community of Grand Chenier. Material will be borrowed from Upper Mud Lake of the Mermentau River which has become heavily silted from river deposits. Dredging this location will provide mutual benefits of restoring depth to the interior lake while beneficially using the material to create much needed coastal marsh. The specific goals of this project are to 1) create approximately 290 acres of marsh with material dredged from Upper Mud Lake, and 2) create approximately 3,000 linear feet of earthen terraces.



Marshes within the Hog Bayou Watershed have converted to mostly open water due to limited freshwater input/saltwater intrusion, storm damage, and historic land use practices leaving the cheniers more vulnerable to storm impacts.

Progress to Date

The project was approved for engineering and design as part of PPL 34. A kick-off meeting was held on July 21, 2025.

For more information, please contact:



Federal Sponsor:
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Lafayette, LA
 (337) xxx-xxxx



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



Vantor

Grand Chenier Marsh Creation and Terracing (ME-42)



-  Marsh Creation
-  Terrace Field

Scale: 1:25,000



Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2026-11-0006
Map Date: April 22, 2026

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