Hopedale Hydrologic Restoration (PO-24)

**Location**
The project is located southeast of Yscloskey in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

**Problems**
In the 1950s, a water control structure was placed in a canal leading from the project area to Bayou la Loutre. This canal parallels the back Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO) spoil containment dike. When installed, this structure contained three culverts with flapgates. As time passed, the flapgates were removed and never replaced. During recent years, two of the three culverts have collapsed, adversely impacting wetlands in the project area through the loss of drainage capability. Increased water elevations from high tides and rainfall ponding on the marsh surface have reduced plant health and led to accelerated marsh loss.

**Restoration Strategy**
This project will abate site-specific wetland loss by replacing collapsed culverts installed in the 1950s near Yscloskey. These degraded water control structures are currently preventing the drainage of high tides and stormwater runoff, resulting in impounded water on the marsh. The new culverts will also maintain fisheries access to the project area.

**Project Status**
- **Approved Date:** 1999
- **Project Area:** 3,805 acres
- **Approved Funds:** $2.28 M
- **Total Est. Cost:** $2.28 M
- **Net Benefit After 20 Years:** 134 acres
- **Status:** Completed
- **Project Type:** Hydrologic Restoration
- **PPL #:** 8

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**Progress to Date**
The cooperative agreement was awarded January 11, 2000. The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved construction funding at their April 2003 meeting. The project is under construction. Construction was completed in fall 2004.

This project is listed on Priority Project List 8.