Project Status

Approved Date: 1996  
Project Area: 16,164 acres  
Approved Funds: $1.45 M  
Total Est. Cost: $1.45 M  
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 199 acres  
Status: De-authorized  
Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration  
PPL #: 5

Location

The project is located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, approximately 5 miles southwest of Cut Off and south of Larose. The project area includes part of the Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area.

Problems

St. Louis Canal and the Island Road Borrow Canal have rerouted water exchange westward via Bayou Pointe au Chien to the Bayou Jean LaCroix watershed. Because this area has higher salinities and twice the tidal amplitude as that of the Grand Bayou watershed into which the area should drain, swamps and other salt-sensitive project-area wetlands have suffered substantial deterioration and loss.

Restoration Strategy

Water exchange to the west through Bayou Pointe au Chien would be halted by installing a major water control structure in Bayou Pointe au Chien. Exchange with the Grand Bayou watershed would be restored by installing new water control structures through the existing levee along the west side of the Grand Bayou/Grand Bayou Canal.

Progress to Date

In April 2002, the project was downsized based on the results of earlier engineering work. Modeling work has been initiated and is expected to take several years to complete. This project is currently de-authorized.

This project is on Priority Project List 5.

For more project 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) 342-4736