Project Status
Approved Date: 1992    Project Area: 2,459 acres
Approved Funds: $6.82 M    Total Est. Cost: $6.82 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 474 acres
Status: Completed July 1998
Project Type: Dredged Material and Shoreline Protection
PPL #: 2

Location
The project is located just west of Port Fourchon, Louisiana, in Lafourche Parish. It covers 2,459 acres of saline marsh. The project is bounded by Belle Pass to the east, the Gulf of Mexico shore to the south, and Timbalier Bay to the west.

Problems
The encroachment of Timbalier Bay into the marshes west of Belle Pass, and ultimately its connection with Bayou Lafourche, threatens the physical integrity of the entire Fourchon headland. Timbalier Bay is encroaching into the marshes on the west side of Bayou Lafourche, and wave action is eroding its banks.

Breaches in the Bayou Lafourche and Belle Pass banks were causing tidal scour in the interior marshes. The project reduced the encroachment of Timbalier Bay into the interior marshes by using dedicated dredged materials to create wetlands. Dams and controls were constructed on channel cross sections.

Restoration Strategy
Approximately 1.5 million cubic yards of material were dredged from Bayou Lafourche and used to build 184 acres of marsh on the west side of Belle Pass. Another 240,000 cubic yards of material were placed on the shore for beach nourishment.

A water control structure was placed in the Evans Canal, and plugs were placed in other canals. Almost 17,000 feet of riprap were placed on the west side of Belle Pass and Bayou Lafourche to protect the shoreline from persistent wave-induced erosion.

For more project information, please contact:

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Local Sponsor:
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