GIWW Bank Restoration of Critical Areas in Terrebonne (TE-43)

Project Status
Approved Date: 2001  Project Area: 355 acres
Approved Funds: $11.2 M  Total Est. Cost: $13.0 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 64 acres
Status: Completed
Project Type: Shoreline Protection
PPL #: 10

Location
The project is located in the Terrebonne basin, in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

Problems
In the past 20 years, as the efficiency of the Lower Atchafalaya River has decreased, Verrett subbasin flooding and Atchafalaya River flows via the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) have increased. Deterioration of fresh and intermediate wetlands, particularly of the floating marshes in the upper Penchant basin, has been attributed to sustained elevated water levels. In addition, floating marshes in some areas have become directly exposed to increased circulation through unnatural connections formed where channel banks deteriorated.

Conversely, losses in the central Terrebonne Parish marshes have been attributed to the elimination of riverine inflow coupled with subsidence and altered hydrology from canal dredging that facilitated saltwater intrusion. Increased flow of the GIWW and wave pulses from navigation traffic are causing additional breakup and loss of floating marshes in unprotected areas.

Restoration Strategy
This project will restore critical lengths of deteriorated channel banks and stabilize/armor selected critical lengths of deteriorated channel banks with hard shoreline stabilization materials.

Progress to Date
Project construction was completed in April 2014.

This project is on Priority Project List 10.
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