rev. September 2013
Cost figures as of: April 2020

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.

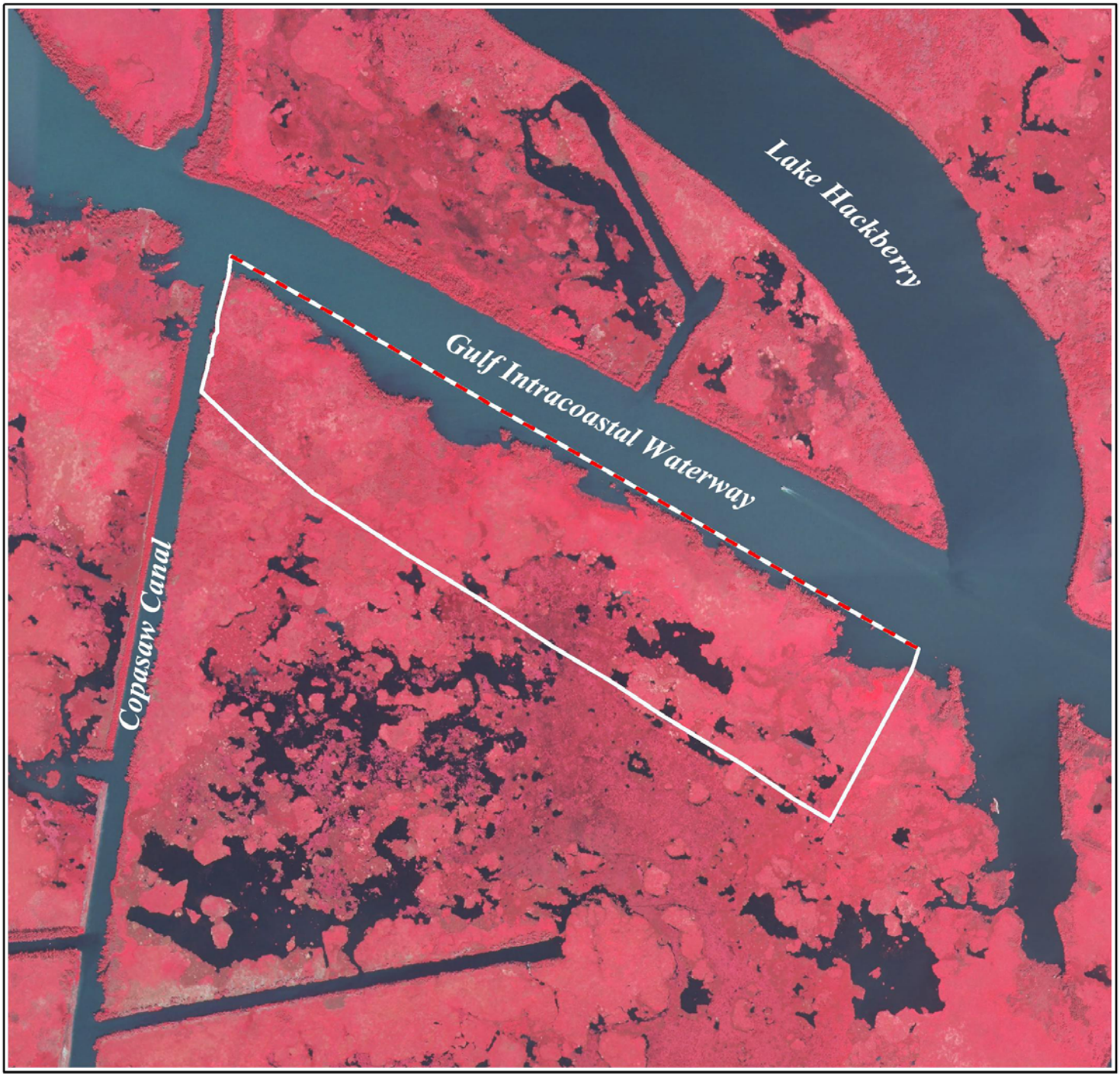
Large mats of floating freshwater marsh, such as this one, detach from their point of origin and enter the GIWW through large breaches in the existing shoreline.

Typical section of forshore rock dike construction as viewed from the GIWW near Copesaw Canal. The typical rock construction includes a lightweight aggregate core to prevent the structure from sinking in these soils that are very organic and have very low load-bearing.

For more information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Alexandria, LA
(318) 473-7756

Local Sponsor:
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-4736



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

Shoreline Protection *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Kilometers

0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Miles

Scale: 1:20,000

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2009-11-0060
Map Date: November 06, 2008

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U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, LA

Image Source:
2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle