rev. September 2010
Cost figures as of: February 2023

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Cycle III (CS-28-3)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2004 **Project Area:** 10,551 acres *
Approved Funds: $3.01 M **Total Est. Cost:** $3.03 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 187 acres
Status: Completed
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 8

Location

This project is located in the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, west of LA Highway 27, in large, open water areas west of Brown's Lake in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The project area is experiencing marsh degradation due to saltwater intrusion and freshwater loss. This has resulted in the conversion of vegetated intermediate marsh to large shallow open water areas. Salinity migrates into the region from the Calcasieu River. Southerly winds push saline waters into the project area through existing canals and bayous. Wind driven waves cause further loss of the remaining marsh fringe.

Restoration Strategy

Cycle III consists of the creation of 232 acres of marsh platform using material dredged from the Calcasieu River Ship Channel. Between February 12 and March 31, 2007, 828,767 cubic yards of dredged sediment material was placed into the Sabine Refuge Cycle III marsh creation area. The dredged material is contained by earthen dikes. Lower level earthen overflow weirs were constructed to assist in the dewatering of the marsh creation disposal area and to create fringe marsh with the overflow. The dredged slurry has been placed between elevations 2.03 NAVD 88 to 2.71 NAVD 88.

* Acreage is the total for all 5 cycles.

Dredged material from the Calcasieu River Ship Channel is placed in the Cycle III marsh creation site via a temporary pipeline.

Progress to Date

The Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project was originally approved as part of the Project Priority List 8 in 1999. The project was later broken into 5 cycles. In 2004, additional funds for engineering and design and construction were approved for Cycle III. The placement of the dredged material has been completed. Degradation of the retention dikes is ongoing and expected to be completed soon.

This project is on Priority Project List 8.

For more information, please contact:

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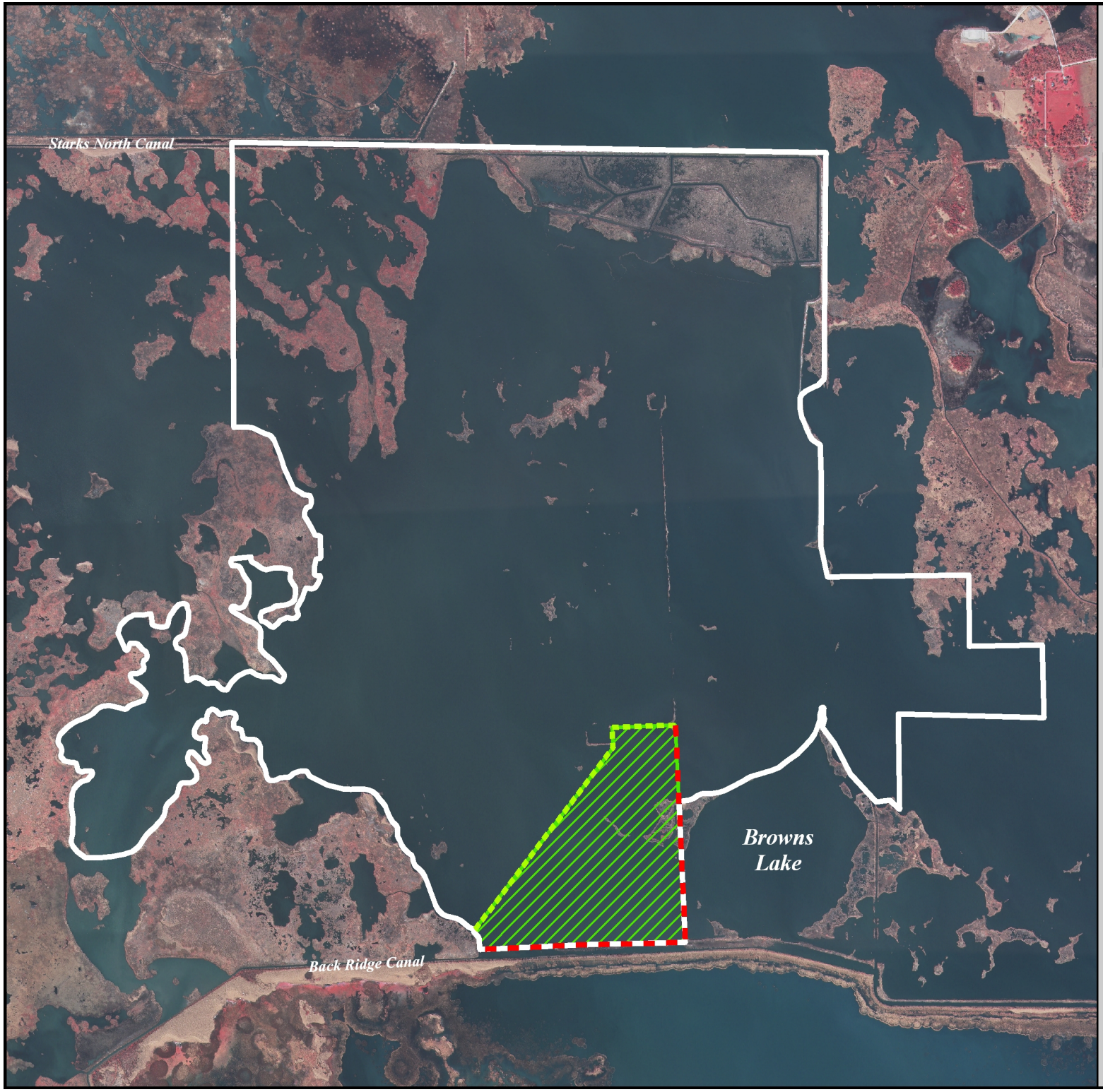
New Orleans, LA
(504) 862-1597

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lafayette, LA
(337) 291-3100

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

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation, Cycle 3 (CS-28-3)



Dike *

Weir *

Marsh Creation *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

0.3 0 0.3 0.6 Kilometers

0.25 0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Map Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:
2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: August 14, 2007
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