



**Coastal Protection and Restoration  
Authority of Louisiana**

**Office of Coastal Protection and  
Restoration**

**2010/2011 Annual Inspection  
Report**

for

**SEDIMENT TRAPPING AT THE  
JAWS PROJECT (TV-15)**

State Project Number TV-15  
Priority Project List 9

April 5, 2011  
St. Mary Parish

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## **Table Of Contents**

I. Introduction.....	1
II. Inspection Purpose and Procedures.....	1
III. Project Description and History.....	1
IV. Summary of Past Operation and Maintenance Projects.....	2
V. Inspection Results .....	2
VI Conclusions and Recommendations .....	3

## **Appendices**

Appendix A	Project Features Map
Appendix B	Photographs
Appendix C	Three Year Budget Projections
Appendix D	Field Inspection Notes
Appendix E	Map showing areas to be monitored

## **I. Introduction**

The Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project (State Project No. TV-15) is located in the Teche/Vermilion Basin in the northeastern corner of West Cote Blanche Bay in St. Mary Parish near the intersection of the Charenton Drainage Canal and the bay. This area is known as “The Jaws”. (See Appendix A).

The Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project was authorized by Section 303(a) of Title III Public Law 101-646, the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) enacted on November 29, 1990 as amended and approved on the ninth Priority Project List. The Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project has a twenty year (20 year) economic life, which began in December 2004.

## **II. Inspection Purpose and Procedures**

The purpose of the annual inspection of the Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project (T/V-15) is to evaluate the constructed project features to identify any deficiencies and prepare a report detailing the condition of project features and recommended corrective actions needed. Should it be determined that corrective actions are needed, LDNR shall provide, in the report, a detailed cost estimate for engineering, design, supervision, inspection, and construction contingencies, and an assessment of the urgency of such repairs (O&M Plan, 2005). The annual inspection report also contains a summary of maintenance projects which were completed since completion of constructed project features and an estimated projected budget for the upcoming three (3) years for operation, maintenance and rehabilitation. The three (3) year projected operation and maintenance budget is shown in Appendix C. A summary of past operation and maintenance projects completed since completion of the Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project are outlined in Section IV.

An inspection of the Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project (TV-15) was held on April 5, 2011 under clear skies and mild temperatures. In attendance were Stan Aucoin, and Mel Guidry from OCPD Lafayette; John Foret and Rick Hartman from NOAA Fisheries; The annual inspection began at the northern most terrace.

The field inspection included a visual inspection of randomly selected areas of the project site. Staff gauge readings, when available, and existing temporary benchmarks were used to determine approximate elevations of water and terraces. Photographs were taken (see Appendix B) and Field Inspection notes were completed in the field to record measurements and deficiencies (see Appendix D).

## **III. Project Description and History**

Construction of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) in the 1920’s provided a connection between the Atchafalaya River and the project area resulting in major hydrologic changes. As

the holding capacity of the Atchafalaya Basin decreased, more and more freshwater was forced down the river's main channel, Wax Lake Outlet, and the GIWW. The result was what was once considered to be brackish marsh converted to fresh.

Sediment laden water from the Atchafalaya River gets to the project area via the GIWW as well as through West Cote Blanche Bay from the Atchafalaya Delta and Wax Lake outlet during strong southeasterly wind events. Construction of the terraces provides protection to the northern shoreline of West Cote Blanche Bay by reducing fetch and turbidity. The channels used to construct the terraces provide a conduit directing sediment rich waters from the GIWW into the project area building additional acres of marsh.

The principal project features include:

- ~38,700 linear feet of earthen terraces in "The Jaws"
- ~38,500 vegetative plantings

#### **IV. Summary of Past Operation and Maintenance Projects**

**General Maintenance:** Below is a summary of completed maintenance projects and operation tasks performed since December 2004, the construction completion date of the Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project.

No maintenance has been required on this project.

**Structure Operations:** There are no active operations associated with this project.

#### **V. Inspection Results**

##### **Earthen Terraces/Vegetation**

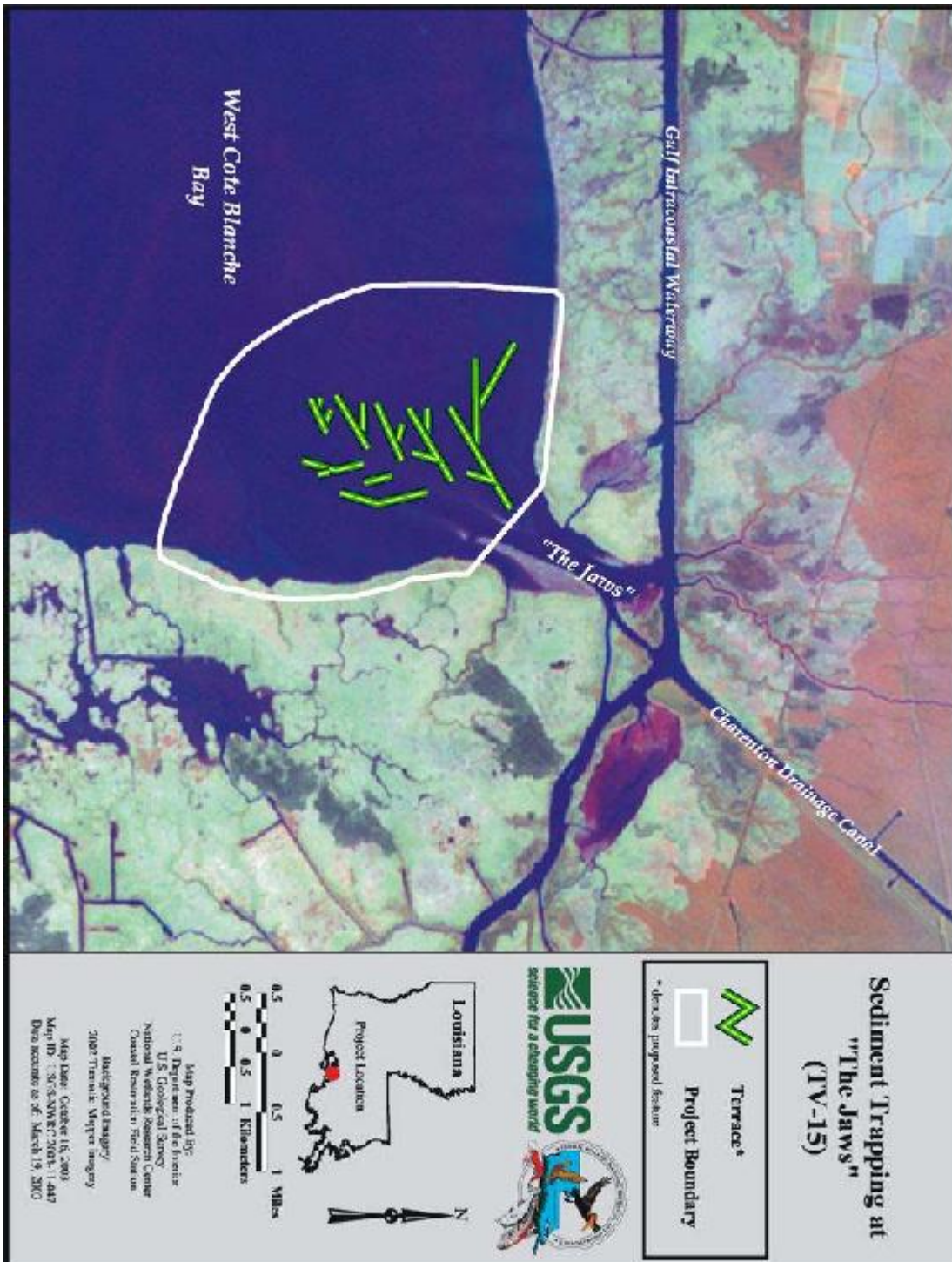
The terraces are in very good condition. Settlement on the ends of the terraces, seems to have somewhat stabilized. Some vegetation still exists even in areas where terraces have settled substantially. Warning signs were all in place and stable. Submerged and emergent aquatic vegetation between the terraces continues to expand. Channels remain fairly clear. No need for any maintenance at this time. (Photos: Appendix B, Photos 1-4)

#### **VI. Conclusions and Recommendations**

The Sediment Trapping at the Jaws Project is in excellent condition and functioning as designed. There is no need for any maintenance at this time. Possible maintenance items that could be considered in 2011/2012:

- Re-establish an accurate staff gauge in the area
- Under separate CWPPRA project, install vegetative plantings along terraces in areas where needed, or in areas between terraces

**Appendix A**  
**Project Features Map**



## **Appendix B**

### **Photographs**



Annual Inspection Report  
SEDIMENT TRAPPING AT THE JAWS PROJECT  
State Project No. TV-15



**Photo No. 1, typical terrace**



**Photo No. 2, typical terrace and warning sign**



**Photo No. 3**, emergent vegetation between terraces



**Photo No. 4**, submerged aquatic vegetation

## **Appendix C**

### **Three Year Budget Projection**

**SEDIMENT TRAPPING AT THE JAWS/ TV15 / PPL 6**  
**Three-Year Operations & Maintenance Budgets 07/01/2011 - 06/30/2014**

<u>Project Manager</u> Stan Aucoin	<u>O &amp; M Manager</u> Stan Aucoin	<u>Federal Sponsor</u> N/A	<u>Prepared By</u> Stan Aucoin
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	2011/2012 (-7)	2012/2013 (-8)	2013/2014 (-9)
<b>Maintenance Inspection</b>	\$ 6,086.00	\$ 6,269.00	\$ 6,457.00
<b>Structure Operation</b>			
<b>State Administration</b>		\$ -	\$ -
<b>Federal Administration</b>		\$ -	\$ -

**Maintenance/Rehabilitation**

11/12 Description: Establish Staff gage

E&D	\$7,500.00
Construction	
Construction Oversight	
<b>Sub Total - Maint. And Rehab.</b>	<b>\$ 7,500.00</b>

12/13 Description

E&D	\$ -
Construction	\$ -
Construction Oversight	\$ -
<b>Sub Total - Maint. And Rehab.</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

13/14 Description:

E&D	\$ -
Construction	\$ -
Construction Oversight	\$ -
<b>Sub Total - Maint. And Rehab.</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

	2011/2012 (-7)	2012/2013 (-8)	2013/2014 (-9)
<b>Total O&amp;M Budgets</b>	<b>\$ 13,586.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,269.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,457.00</b>

<b>O &amp; M Budget (3 yr Total)</b>	<b>\$ 26,312.00</b>
<b>Unexpended O &amp; M Budget</b>	<b>\$ 242,687.00</b>
<b>Remaining O &amp; M Budget (Projected)</b>	<b>\$ 216,375.00</b>

## **Appendix D**

### **Field Inspection Form**

Annual Inspection Report  
 SEDIMENT TRAPPING AT THE JAWS PROJECT  
 State Project No. TV-15

MAINTENANCE INSPECTION REPORT CHECK SHEET

Project No. / Name: TV-15 Sediment Trapping at the Jaws

Date of Inspection: April 5, 2011 Time:

Structure No. N/A

Inspector(s): Stan Aucoin, Mel Guidry (OCPR)  
 Rick Hartman, John Foret (NMFS)

Structure Description: Terraces/Vegetation

Water Level Inside: Outside:  
 Weather Conditions: Cloudy and Clear

Type of Inspection: Annual

Item	Condition	Physical Damage	Corrosion	Photo #	Observations and Remarks
Steel Bulkhead / Caps	N/A				
Steel Grating	N/A				
Stop Logs	N/A				
Hardware	N/A				
Timber Piles	N/A				
Timber Wales	N/A				
Galv. Pile Caps	N/A				
Vegetation	Good				
Signage / Supports	Good			2	
Rip Rap (fill)	N/A				
Earthen Embankment (terraces)	Excellent			1,2,3,4	Terraces are in good condition. No repairs needed.

What are the conditions of the existing levees?  
 Are there any noticeable breaches?  
 Settlement of rock plugs and rock weirs?  
 Position of stoplogs at the time of the inspection?

## **Appendix E**

### **Locations to be Monitored**