

Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration

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SURVEY METHODOLOGY REPORT

for

GRAND LIARD MARSH AND RIDGE RESTORATION (BA-68) Topographic & Bathymetric Survey Plaquemines Parish

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SURVEY METHODOLOGY REPORT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Grand Liard Marsh and Ridge Restoration (BA-68) project is funded by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act under Priority Project List 18. The Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR), in partnership with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), have been authorized to execute Phase 1 (Engineering and Design) of BA-68. The proposed project will create/restore over 500 acres of marsh and ridge habitat along the eastern bank of Bayou Grand Liard.

The BA-68 project area has experienced tremendous wetland loss due to a variety of forces including subsidence, salt-water intrusion, a lack of sediment supply, and oil and gas activities. The Bastion Bay and Grand Liard mapping units were historically structured by a series of north south bayous and associated ridges (i.e., Bayou Long, Dry Cypress Bayou). Over the preceding decades the majority of these bayou ridges and the marshes flanking them have disappeared. Ridge loss combined with interior wetland loss has resulted in large expanses of open water. The Grand Liard ridge is the most prominent remaining ridge, and separates the open bays of the Bastian Bay and Grand Liard mapping units. Land loss projections suggest that the remaining bayou bank wetlands will be completely converted to open water by 2050.



The BA-68 project site is located in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, near the communities of Buras and Triumph, along the western bank of the Mississippi River, within the Bastian Bay and Grand Liard mapping units. The approximate coordinates of the center of the project area (ridge and marsh) are as follows: X=3,874,074, Y=293,045 (NAD 83 Louisiana State Plane, South Zone, U.S. survey feet).

The proposed project will create approximately 328 acres of marsh habitat, nourish approximately 140 acres of existing marsh, and create approximately 20,000 linear feet (34 acres) of maritime ridge habitat along the eastern bank of Bayou Grand Liard. These features will be constructed using hydraulically dredged and pumped sediment from the Mississippi River. The marsh creation fill areas will be formed by constructing earthen containment dikes around the boundaries the designated sites. The scope of services for this survey involves the completion of topographic, bathymetric, and magnetometer surveys of the proposed fill areas, Bayou Grand Liard, and other portions of the project area.

PERMISSION & ACCESS

Prior to performing any field work, Sigma requested permission to access the survey site from the landowners as provided by OCPR. A certified letter was sent to the landowners describing the work to be performed. Copies of the permission letters are included in Appendix A of this report.

HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CONTROL

NGS Monument N 367 was used as primary control for the entire survey. The datasheet is included in Appendix B of this report. In order to maintain full GPS RTK coverage, LDNR Monument CRMSBA-SM-14 was surveyed relative to monument N 367 and used as a RTK reference point. In order to set control at CRMSBA-SM-14, a GPS static network survey was performed. NGS Monuments C 279, J 370 and N 367 were used as primary benchmarks for the control survey. Observations of 4 hour duration were simultaneously collected on these 3 monuments along with CRMSBA-SM-14. Observations were observed on different days at different times to ensure different satellite geometry. The following table shows the published and utilized coordinates for N 367 and the adjusted coordinates for CRMSBA-SM-14.

PROJECT PRIMARY CONTROL POINTS					
	LA State Plane (NAD83)				NAVD88 Elevation
Mark	Northing (US Feet)	Easting (US Feet)	Latitude	Longitude	(US Feet)
N 367	314,850.54	3,878,540.64	29°21'08.29719"N	089°27'25.67584"W	0.97
CRMSBA-SM-14	275,747.43	3,881,961.64	29°14'40.68730''N	089°26′54.29218"W	1.83

STAFF GAGE

A staff gage was established near the north end of the project at 29°19'00.8818"N, 089°28'52.7953"W. The gage plate is a fiberglass plate attached to a 4" x 4" treated timber post. The gage was surveyed into the SLCW Secondary Network using N 367 as the reference point. The gage was established as a means of monitoring Mean High Water (MHW) and Mean Low Water (MLW) elevations throughout the duration of the survey effort. The table below shows gage readings during the survey effort.

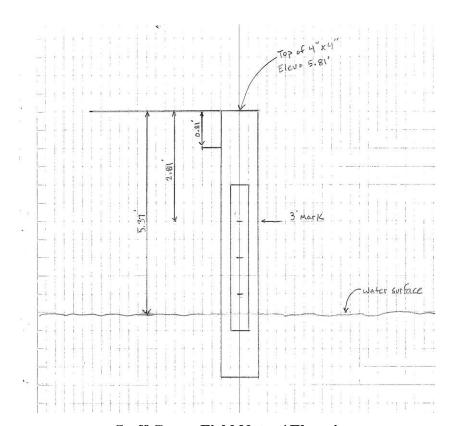
STAFF GAGE DATA					
Date	AM R	Reading	PM Reading		Weather
Date	Elev. (ft)	Time	Elev. (ft)	Time	
8-21-10	1.86	7:00 am	0.85	5:00 pm	Clear
8-22-10	1.65	7:23 am	1.00	5:00 pm	Clear
8-23-10	1.30	7:00 am	1.10	4:30 pm	Clear
8-25-10	1.30	9:00 am	1.20	5:00 pm	Clear & Windy
8-26-10	1.10	7:00 am	-	-	Cloudy, Rain after 9:30 am
8-30-10	1.00	10:15 am	0.90	5:15 pm	Partly Cloudy / AM Rain
8-31-10	1.40	7:00 am	0.70	5:30m	Partly Cloudy / Windy / Rainy
9-01-10	1.85	7:30 am	0.70	6:00 pm	Partly Cloudy
9-02-10	2.20	8:00 am	2.70	11:30 am	Partly Cloudy
9-08-10	1.70	11:00 am	-	-	Partly Cloudy
9-09-10	1.55	12:15 pm	1.50	4:45 pm	Partly Cloudy
9-10-10	1.10	8:00 am	1.60	5:30 pm	Partly Cloudy / Rainy
9-11-10	1.15	8:00 am	0.85	3:00 pm	Partly Cloudy
9-13-10	0.65	9:20 am	0.00	3:30 pm	Partly Cloudy
9-14-10	1.50	7:00 am	0.40	4:30 pm	AM Clear / PM Cloudy
9-15-10	1.60	7:30 am	0.50	5:15 pm	Partly Cloudy
9-16-10	1.90	7:30 am	1.00	2:30 pm	Clear
9-17-10	2.10	8:00 am	1.30	1:00 pm	Clear
9-22-10	1.80	8:00 am	1.50	4:30 pm	Partly Cloudy / Rainy
9-23-10	1.80	7:30 am	-	-	Clear





Staff Gauge

Staff Gauge



Staff Gauge Field Notes / Elevations

MARSH ELEVATION SURVEYS

Average marsh elevation survey shots were taken at three locations as identified by the OCPR. Twenty (20) shots were taken at each location. Shots were taken such that the tip of the rod was resting at the vegetation roots. GPS positions were collected using the Leica System 1200 GPS receivers in RTK mode Locations of the marsh elevation surveys are shown in the drawings included in Appendix C.

	MARSH SITE 1				
Point No.	Northing	Easting	Elev.		
2446	298,102.41	3,870,773.01	1.53		
2447	298,069.21	3,870,766.92	1.40		
2448	298,049.82	3,870,764.08	1.59		
2449	298,030.27	3,870,760.73	1.18		
2450	298,008.61	3,870,756.41	0.57		
2451	298,137.82	3,870,775.46	1.10		
2452	298,162.93	3,870,778.67	1.06		
2453	298,182.67	3,870,782.20	1.48		
2454	298,203.28	3,870,785.45	1.62		
2455	298,062.51	3,870,851.94	1.40		
2456	298,066.98	3,870,819.72	1.82		
2457	298,075.56	3,870,809.19	1.77		
2458	298,092.25	3,870,788.15	1.45		
2459	298,108.09	3,870,757.84	1.06		
2460	298,113.78	3,870,742.59	1.25		
2461	298,091.63	3,870,729.84	1.69		
2462	298,076.34	3,870,712.05	1.44		
2463	298,058.10	3,870,689.53	1.58		
2464	298,078.05	3,870,663.21	1.23		
2465	298,112.94	3,870,661.04	1.60		
2466	298,158.40	3,870,677.92	1.44		
Average	298,097.22	3,870,754.57	1.39		

	MARSH SITE 2				
Point No.	Northing	Easting	Elev.		
2425	292,262.22	3,873,558.32	1.18		
2426	292,257.05	3,873,538.60	1.41		
2427	292,245.08	3,873,519.54	1.41		
2428	292,222.69	3,873,519.20	1.02		
2429	292,201.60	3,873,516.22	1.22		
2430	292,264.60	3,873,520.59	1.46		
2431	292,286.63	3,873,521.23	1.24		
2432	292,283.74	3,873,538.72	1.23		
2433	292,285.38	3,873,560.00	1.46		
2434	292,305.75	3,873,559.08	1.12		
2435	292,294.47	3,873,579.68	1.17		
2436	292,308.28	3,873,591.83	0.51		
2437	292,282.35	3,873,596.80	0.83		
2438	292,317.59	3,873,537.57	1.32		
2439	292,326.88	3,873,508.64	1.29		
2440	292,348.19	3,873,484.78	1.55		
2441	292,196.85	3,873,560.03	1.70		
2442	292,175.38	3,873,549.40	1.03		
2443	292,193.24	3,873,587.44	1.13		
2444	292,200.10	3,873,605.56	1.39		
2445	292,183.54	3,873,620.51	1.12		
Average	292,259.12	3,873,551.13	1.23		

	MARSH SITE 3				
Point No.	Northing	Easting	Elev.		
602	289,603.09	3,875,803.58	1.26		
603	289,614.54	3,875,815.73	0.82		
604	289,610.35	3,875,829.47	0.97		
605	289,622.92	3,875,818.08	0.63		
606	289,591.05	3,875,792.80	0.57		
607	289,589.16	3,875,819.96	0.22		
608	289,573.01	3,875,850.40	1.40		
609	289,523.30	3,875,895.00	0.68		
610	289,586.72	3,875,926.08	0.76		
611	289,628.09	3,875,927.41	0.64		
612	289,668.25	3,875,929.12	0.47		
613	289,686.53	3,875,907.80	0.30		
614	289,698.17	3,875,854.18	0.75		
615	289,691.55	3,875,814.32	0.16		
616	289,657.76	3,875,782.62	0.39		
617	289,622.75	3,875,761.70	0.82		
618	289,586.25	3,875,740.92	0.76		
619	289,565.57	3,875,688.72	0.62		
620	289,606.08	3,875,683.47	0.15		
621	289,671.63	3,875,660.17	0.42		
622	289,715.52	3,875,663.76	0.79		
623	289,760.01	3,875,664.26	0.75		
Average	289,630.56	3,875,801.34	0.65		

	MARSH SITE 4				
Point No.	Northing	Easting	Elev.		
582	281,094.11	3,873,780.71	1.09		
583	281,109.06	3,873,769.69	0.95		
584	281,125.89	3,873,756.84	1.11		
585	281,151.55	3,873,742.33	0.86		
586	281,162.84	3,873,760.28	1.06		
587	281,143.88	3,873,775.90	1.14		
588	281,127.53	3,873,789.19	1.10		
589	281,107.11	3,873,800.75	0.96		
590	281,088.60	3,873,811.29	0.93		
591	281,065.84	3,873,818.23	0.88		
592	281,046.58	3,873,825.72	0.64		
593	281,037.62	3,873,805.17	1.09		
594	281,058.57	3,873,798.38	0.95		
595	281,077.40	3,873,791.08	0.94		
596	281,068.53	3,873,769.38	1.28		
597	281,087.30	3,873,758.61	1.31		
598	281,104.56	3,873,748.86	1.13		
599	281,120.55	3,873,739.08	1.03		
600	281,074.93	3,873,755.65	1.13		
601	281,107.52	3,873,818.09	1.01		
Average	281,098.00	3,873,780.76	1.03		

TRANSECT / BATHYMETRIC SURVEY

Cross section transects were run as directed by OCPR and are shown in the project drawings in Appendix C. Forty One (41) marsh transects, fifty-five (55) bayou transects, twenty (20) additional transects including existing ridge and spoil bank profiles, six (6) ideal ridge cross sections were surveyed by Sigma. Bathymetric data was collected using an Odom Hydrotrac Portable Echosounder (No. 10584) and 2000KHz Transducer (No. TR.6618). GPS positioning was collected using Leica System 1200 GPS receivers in RTK mode. Overbank portions of transects and areas of shallow water were collected using the Leica System 1200 GPS receivers in RTK mode.

Shots were taken at 25 foot minimum intervals, with additional shots collected at grade breaks.

Transect coordinates are shown in individual data sets identified by Transect No. and are included in Appendix D.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPOGRAPHY

General features and potential obstructions for the marsh and ridge restoration project were surveyed in the field. These features are shown in the Topography Survey (Sheet 2 of 2) drawing shown in Appendix C.

MAGNETOMETER SURVEY

A magnetometer survey for the Grand Liard Marsh and Ridge Restoration project was conducted to identify potential existing pipelines and other obstructions within the project area. A GEOMETRICS-858 Cesium magnetometer on board a 28' Aluminum Hull Survey vessel along with a 17' Gator Tail vessel for the shallow water areas were used to conduct the survey. The Magnetometer survey was conducted along pre-established grid lines, which are shown on the attached map, and all anomalies shown were investigated by means of a 25' radius surveyed around the anomaly and by manual probing methods for pipelines. Horizontal positions for the survey were derived utilizing the C-NAV 2050 DGPS with stated sub-meter accuracy. A map of the magnetometer survey transect lines, magnetometer hits, and located pipelines is included in Appendix C. Points identified as "Mag Hit" indicate that a magnetic anomaly was detected; however, the anomaly was too deep to locate with a probe.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY OVERLAY

The 2008 Digital Orthographic Quarter Quads for the Triumph and Pass Tante Phine quadrangle maps were used as background photography for the survey maps included in this report. Sigma has projected these photographs to the Louisiana Coordinate System of 1983 (NAD83) – South Zone (1702) in US Feet. A combined mosaic of these raster images was generated and is provided in the electronic deliverables.

ELECTRONIC DELIVERABLES

As defined in the scope of work, Sigma is submitting the following electronic data on a CD:

- Survey Methodology Report
- Survey Plan View Drawings
- Transect Cross Sections Drawings
- Data Sets Separated by Transect (PNEZD Comma Delimited ASCII Files)

Also included in the electronic deliverables is an AutoDesk Land Development Desktop XML Report of all points, point groups, alignments, cross sections and digital terrain models prepared by Sigma during the course of the project. This data may be imported into the LDNR Land Development Desktop / Civil 3D software to seamlessly transfer the survey data into the design project.

Appendix A PERMISSION & ACCESS LETTERS

Appendix B PROJECT CONTROL DATASHEETS

Appendix C

Project Drawings

Appendix D
Survey Data Sets

Appendix E

Field Notes

