

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
LOST LAKE MARSH CREATION AND HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION PROJECT
(TE-72)
TERREBONNE PARISH, LOUISIANA


The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is proposing to construct the Lost Lake Marsh Creation and Hydrologic Restoration Project (TE-72), located in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. The project is funded through the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act and was authorized for construction on January 24, 2013.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared which addresses the Preferred Alternative and a No Action alternative. The purpose of the proposed project is to create 468 acres of emergent marsh by hydraulically dredging bottom sediments and placing that material in shallow open water and fragmented marsh areas. The project will also create approximately 30,000 linear feet of terraces in an area of deteriorated marsh. Also, four fixed-crest weirs and one plug will be replaced with variable-crest structures to allow greater introduction of fresh water, sediments, and nutrients.


Copies of the draft EA were distributed to all pertinent local, state and Federal agencies, and public coastal Louisiana restoration groups in November, 2012. After a 30-day comment period, pertinent comments were incorporated into the final EA.

The Preferred Alternative of creating marsh and terraces in shallow open water areas and installing water control structures was selected because it will restore emergent marsh in the project area and result in a net gain of 452 acres of marsh compared to the No Action Alternative.

Based on my review and evaluation of the enclosed EA, I have determined that the Lost Lake Marsh Creation and Hydrologic Restoration Project is not a major Federal action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Accordingly, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed action is not required.



Supervisor
Louisiana Ecological Services Office



Date

Reference:

Final Environmental Assessment, dated May 2014

Enclosure
03129196 FWM 246

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
