

Priority Project List 31

Candidate Projects



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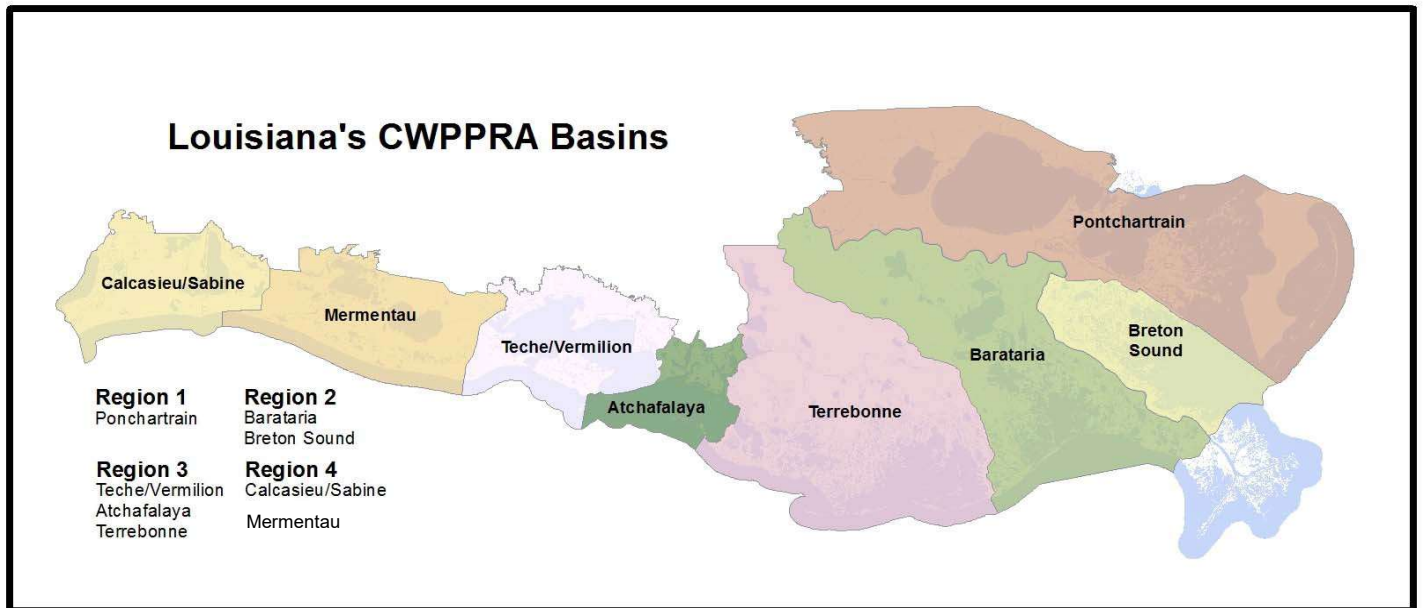
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Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Priority Project List (PPL) Selection Process

Project Nominations

The 4 Regional Planning Teams (RPTs), consisting of representatives from the CWPPRA agencies and the coastal parishes located in those regions, will meet to propose projects to be included on the new PPL. Project nominations will be accepted in all the hydrologic basins below. *All proposals must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan to be considered as possible nominees; therefore, those wishing to propose projects are encouraged to work with representatives of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority prior to the RPT meetings to develop projects that are consistent.* A lead agency will be assigned to each nominated project to prepare preliminary project support information (factsheet, maps, and potential designs, and benefits).



- Project nominations that provide benefits or construct features in more than one basin shall be presented in the basin receiving the majority of the project's benefits.
- Multi-basin projects can be broken into multiple projects to be considered individually in the basins which they occur.
- Coastwide Projects
 - Proposed technique applicable across the coast; refer to Appendix F of the CWPPRA Standard Operation Procedures for coastwide project guidelines
 - Project nominations that are legitimate coastwide applications will be accepted separate from the 8 basins at any of the 4 RPT meetings.
- Demonstration Projects
 - Demonstrates a technology which can be transferred to other areas in coastal Louisiana
 - Refer to Appendix E of the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures for demonstration project guidelines

If similar projects are proposed within the same area, the RPT representatives, including the CWPPRA agencies and *only* the parishes located within the project’s basin, will determine if those projects are sufficiently different to allow each of them to move forward. If not sufficiently different, such projects will be combined into one project nominee and a federal sponsor will be determined. This decision to either combine similar projects or allow each to move forward will be made at the RPT meeting where the similar projects are proposed. If a mutually agreeable position on sponsorship cannot be determined by overlapping sponsors, voting by the RPT representatives (including agencies and only the parishes within the project’s basin) will occur to determine sponsorship at the RPT meeting. For non-overlapping projects, a federal sponsor does not have to be identified prior to the coastwide vote.

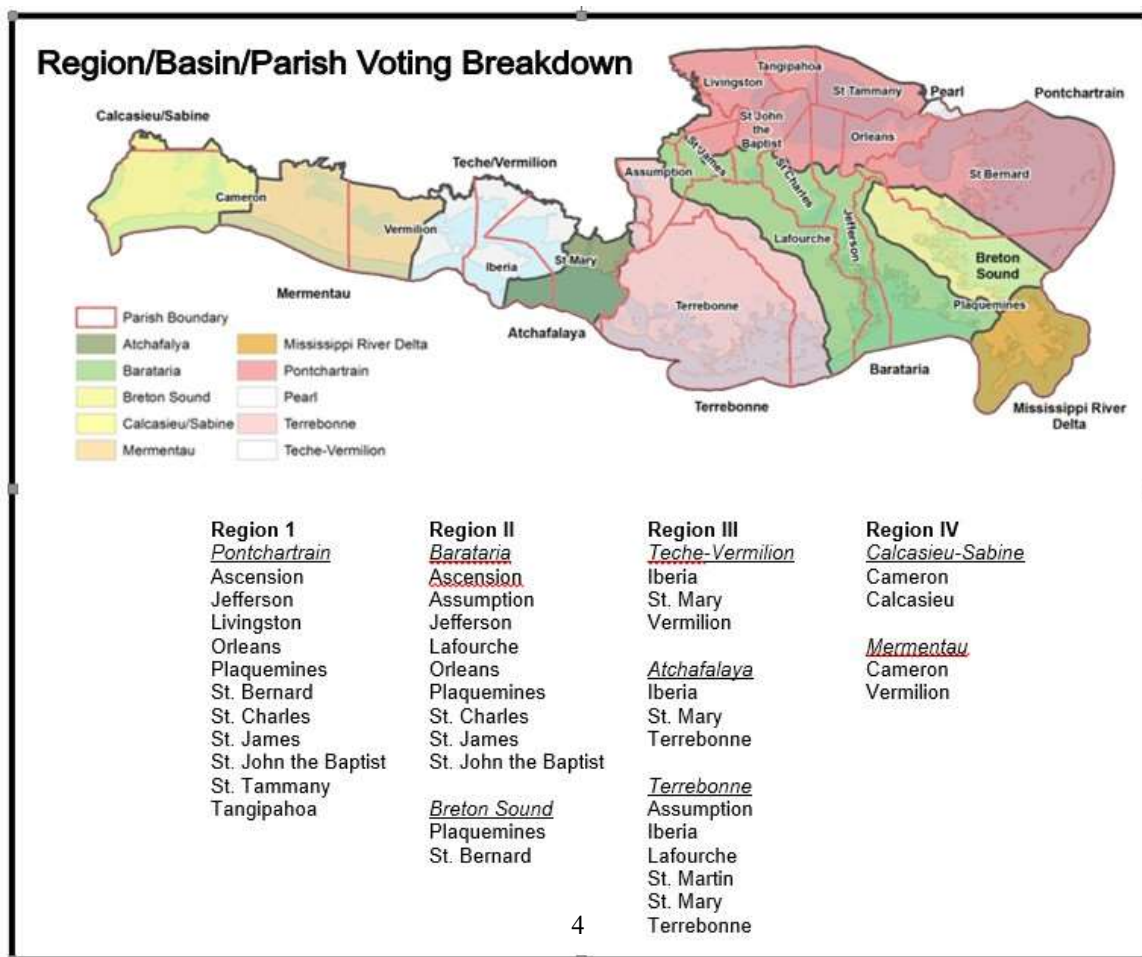
Prior to voting on project nominees, the Environmental Work Group (EnvWG) and Engineering Work Group (EngWG) will screen coastwide project and demonstration project nominations to ensure that each qualifies for its respective category as set forth in the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

Nominees	Basin
4	Barataria
4	Terrebonne
3	Breton Sound
3	Pontchartrain
2	Mermentau
2	Calcasieu/Sabine
2	Teche/Vermilion
1	Atchafalaya
1	Coastwide
22	TOTAL

Coastwide Electronic Vote

The RPTs will vote after the individual RPT meetings via email to select nominee projects. The RPTs will select projects per basin based on land loss rates (see table on left) and up to 6 demonstration projects.

During the RPT meetings, all CWPPRA agencies and parishes will be required to provide the name and contact information for the official representative who will vote to select nominee projects. Each officially designated parish representative in the basin will have one vote and each federal agency and the State will have one vote.



Preliminary Assessment of Nominated Projects

Agencies, parishes, landowners, and other individuals will informally confer to further develop projects. The lead agency designated for each nominated project will prepare a brief project description that discusses possible features. Factsheets will also be prepared for demonstration project nominees.

During this preliminary assessment, the EngWG and EnvWG meet to review project features, discuss potential benefits, and estimate preliminary fully funded cost ranges for each project. The Work Groups also review the nominated demonstration projects. If it is determined that a demonstration project is unlikely to be utilized in restoration or has been evaluated previously, the Work Groups may recommend to the Technical Committee that these projects not move forward.

The P&E Subcommittee prepares a matrix of cost estimates and other pertinent information for nominees and demonstration project nominees.

Selection of Phase 0 Candidate Projects

The selection of the Phase 0 candidate projects occurs at the spring Technical Committee meeting. The Technical Committee meets to consider the project costs and potential wetland benefits of the nominees. They will select 10 candidate projects regardless of basin and may select up to 3 demonstration project candidates for detailed assessment by the EngWG, EnvWG, and Economic Work Group (EcoWG).

Phase 0 Analysis of Candidate Projects

During Phase 0 analysis, the EngWG, EnvWG and Academic Advisory Group meet to refine project features and develop boundaries for the project and extended boundaries for estimating land loss.

The sponsoring agencies coordinate site visits for each project to observe the conditions in the project area. There will be no site visits conducted for demonstration projects. The sponsoring agencies develop draft WVAs and prepare Phase 1 engineering and design cost estimates and Phase 2 construction cost estimates, using formats approved by the applicable work group. Demonstration project candidates will be evaluated as outlined in Appendix E of the SOP.

The EngWG reviews and approves Phase 1 and 2 cost estimates, the EcoWG reviews cost estimates and develops annualized (fully funded) costs, and the EnvWG reviews and approves all draft WVAs.

The Corps of Engineers staff prepares an information package for Technical Committee review and public distribution consisting of:

- 1) Updated project factsheets;
- 2) A matrix that lists projects, fully funded cost, average annual cost, WVA results in net acres and Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHUs), and cost effectiveness (average annual cost/AAHU);
- 3) A qualitative discussion of supporting partnerships and public support.

Selection of the PPL

The selection of the PPL will occur at the winter Technical Committee and Task Force meetings. The Technical Committee meets and considers matrix, project factsheets, and public comments, then recommends up to 4 projects and up to one demonstration project for selection to the PPL. The Task Force will review the Technical Committee recommendations and determine which projects will receive Phase 1 (design) funding for the PPL.

Once a project completes Phase I, Phase II (construction) funding must be requested from the Task Force and much of the evaluation is updated using additional information gained since original analysis.



Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

PPL 31 Schedule

February 2, 2021	Region IV Planning Team Meeting
February 3, 2021	Region III Planning Team Meeting
February 4, 2021	Regions I and II Planning Team Meetings
February 23, 2021	Coastwide RPT Electronic Vote
March/April 2021	Agencies prepare factsheets for RPT-nominated projects
March/April 2021	Engineering/Environmental Work Groups review project features, benefits, & prepare preliminary cost estimates for nominated projects
April 2021	P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of nominated projects showing initial cost estimates and benefits
April 1, 2021	Spring Technical Committee Meeting, select PPL 31 candidate projects
May/June 2021	Candidate project site visits
May 6, 2021	Spring Task Force Meeting
July/August/ September 2021	Eng/Eng/Econ Work Group project evaluations
September 2, 2021	Fall Technical Committee Meeting, O&M and Monitoring funding recommendations
October 7, 2021	Fall Task Force Meeting, O&M and Monitoring approvals
October 2021	Economic, Engineering, and Environmental analyses completed for PPL 31 candidates
December 9, 2021	Winter Technical Committee Meeting, recommend PPL 31 and Phase I and II approvals
January 2022	Winter Task Force Meeting, select PPL 31 and approve Phase II requests

****DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

Visit www.lacoast.gov/calendar for up-to-date information regarding meetings dates, times, & locations.

Candidate Projects Located in Region 2

PPL31 Spanish Lake-Grand Lake Marsh Creation

Project Location:

Region 2, Breton Sound Basin, Plaquemines Parish, west of Delacroix, Louisiana

Problem:

Historically this area was nourished by the fresh water, sediment and nutrients delivered by the Mississippi River. Following the creation of levees along the lower river, these inputs largely ceased. In 1991, the Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion Structure became operational with capabilities to divert up to 8,000 cubic feet/sec. As a result, marshes in the area have fluctuated between fresh/intermediate and brackish/saline habitat types over time.

The major cause of wetland loss for this area has been attributed to storm activity (i.e. Hurricanes Betsy and Katrina), causing both storm-induced scour and salt water intrusion. Altered hydrology and oil/gas development have exacerbated storm-related loss. Subsidence, high in this area, ranges from 2.1-3.5 ft./century. Natural lakes and bays continue to increase in size due to coalescence with marsh lost to water and increased wave fetch. The 1984 to 2019 USGS loss rate is -1.28%/yr. for the extended boundary area.

Goals:

The primary goals of this project are to restore degraded wetland habitat and provide increased protection from storm surge and flooding. Specific objectives are to 1) create 471 acres of emergent marsh, 2) nourish 212 acres of emergent marsh.

Service goals include restoration/protection of habitat for threatened and endangered species and other at-risk species. This project would restore habitat potentially utilized by the black rail, which is proposed for listing as a threatened species. The project could also benefit other species of concern including the osprey, mottled duck, saltmarsh topminnow, and seaside sparrow.

Proposed Solution:

This project would create/nourish 683 acres of marsh using material hydraulically dredged from Grand Lake with an initial target fill elevation of +1.04 feet (NAVD88). Constructed earthen containment dikes would be gapped as needed by year 3 to provide tidal exchange after fill materials settle and consolidate. The proposed project features will help maintain the marshes west of Grand Lake and stop the coalescing of Grand Lake and Spanish Lake. The proposed project would be synergistic with the 2017 Master Plan's East Bank Land Bridge Marsh Creation projects of which three projects are in the Engineering and Design phase.

Project Benefits:

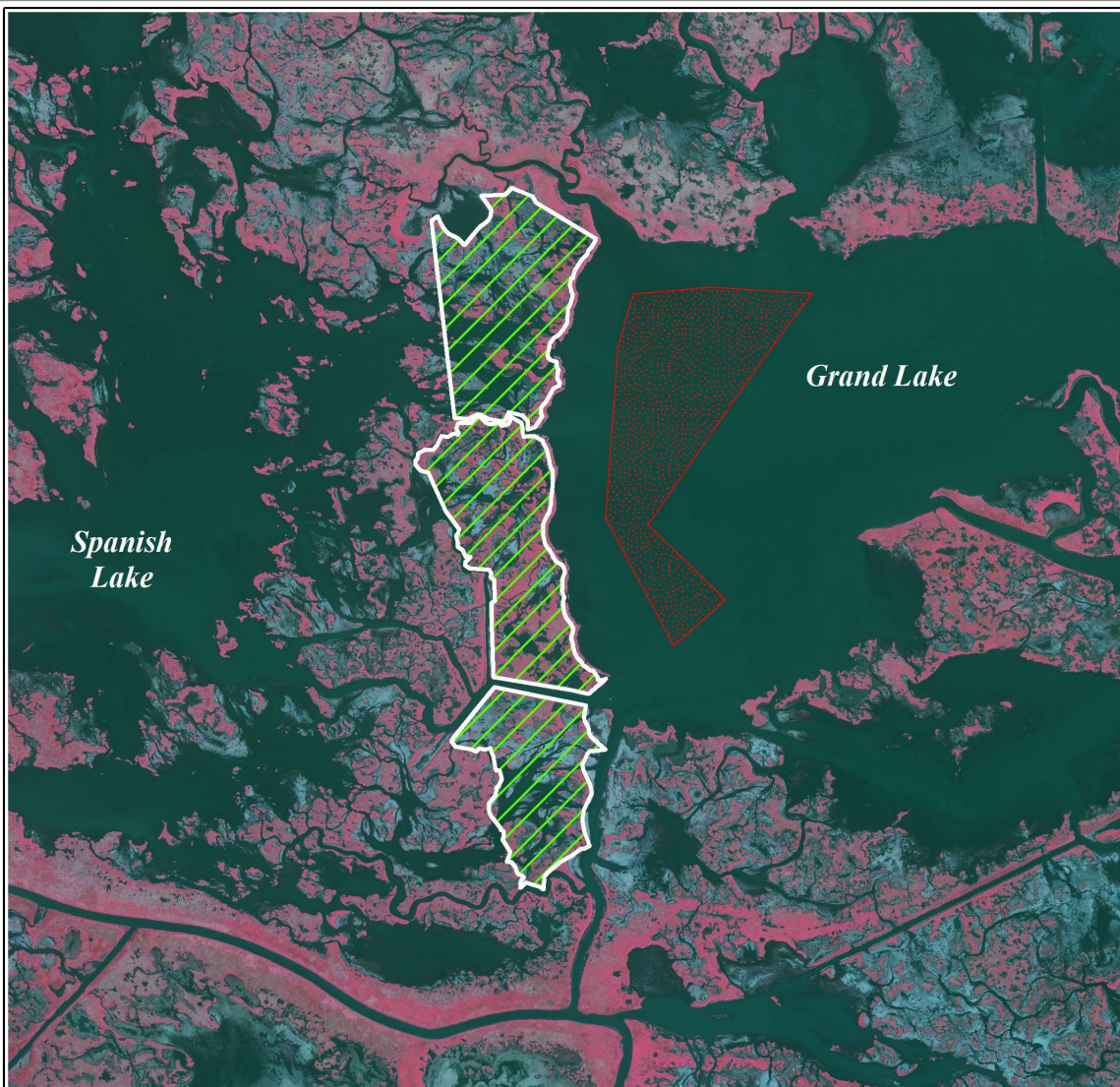
The project would result in approximately 437 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

The total fully-funded cost is \$45,868,847.




Preparer of Fact Sheet:

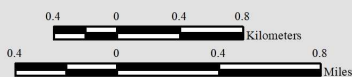
Robert Dubois; FWS; (337) 291-3127; robert_dubois@fws.gov



**Spanish Lake - Grand Lake Marsh Creation
(PPL31 Candidate)**



-  Marsh Creation/Nourishment *
 -  Borrow Site *
 -  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Scale: 1:40,000

Map ID: 2021-11-0015
Map Date: June 30, 2021

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, LA

Image Source:
2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 Grand Bayou Ridge and Marsh Restoration – Increment 2

Project Location:

Region 2, Barataria Basin, Plaquemines Parish, Western Bank of Grand Bayou

Problem:

Within the Lake Hermitage basin, between Bayou Grande Cheniere and the Mississippi River, significant marsh loss has occurred with the construction of oil/gas canals, subsidence, and sediment deprivation. From examination of aerial photography, the majority of this loss occurred during the 1960s and 1970s when numerous oil/gas canals were dredged in the area. Based on the hyper-temporal analysis conducted by USGS for the extended project boundary, the land loss rate in the project area is -0.4% per year for the period 1984 to 2020.

Goals:

The primary goals of this project are: 1) restore marsh habitat in the open water areas via marsh creation and 2) restore forested ridge habitat along Grand Bayou. Specific goals are: 1) Create approximately 386 acres (307 acres of creation; 79 acres of nourishment) of marsh with dredged material from the Mississippi River; and 2) Create 7,100 linear feet (9 acres) of forested ridge habitat.

Service goals include restoration/protection of habitat for threatened and endangered species and other at-risk species. This project would restore habitat potentially utilized by the black rail, recently listed as a threatened species. The project could also benefit other species of concern including the saltmarsh topminnow, seaside sparrow, and neotropical migrants.

Proposed Solution:

Sediments from the Mississippi River will be hydraulically dredged and pumped via pipeline to create/nourish approximately 386 acres of marsh. The proposed design is to place the dredged material to a fill height of +2.5ft NAVD88. Dewatering and compaction of dredged sediments should produce elevations conducive to the establishment of emergent marsh and within the intertidal range. Containment dikes will be gapped at the end of construction.

Approximately 7,100 linear feet (9 acres) of forested ridge will be created along the western bank of Grand Bayou using material from the bayou. The ridge will be constructed to a crown elevation of +5.0 feet NAVD88, 20 feet wide, and will be planted on the crown and slopes.

Project Benefits:

The project would result in 302 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

The total fully-funded cost is \$42,657,227.




Preparer of Fact Sheet:

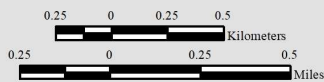
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Grand Bayou Ridge and Marsh Restoration – Increment 2 (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Ridge Restoration *
 -  Marsh Creation *
 -  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Scale: 1:30,000

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, LA

Map ID: 2021-11-0014
Map Date: June 30, 2021

Image Source:
2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 Northeast Turtle Bay Marsh Creation Extension

Project Location:

Region 2, Barataria Basin, Jefferson Parish

Problem:

Historic wetland loss in the Perot/Rigolettes mapping unit of the Barataria Basin has been caused by subsidence, sediment deprivation, and construction of access and pipeline canals. The Barataria Waterway has also allowed salt water and higher tidal energies to enter the area causing marsh loss. Interior ponds have expanded and coalesced as a result of subsidence and increased tidal energies. As ponds expand increased wave fetch exacerbates interior shoreline erosion. Based on analysis conducted by USGS, loss rates in the project extended boundary are estimated to be -0.64% per year for the period 1984 to 2020.

Goals:

The goal of the project is to restore low salinity brackish marsh along the Barataria Basin Landbridge with dredged material from Turtle Bay. This project is part of an overall, long-range, restoration goal which would create/nourish 7,400 acres of low salinity brackish and intermediate marsh on the east shore of Little Lake and Turtle Bay (2017 Coastal Master Plan No. 002.MC.04a, Lower Barataria Marsh Creation – Component A).

Proposed Solution:

The proposed project will create approximately 362 acres and nourish approximately 61 acres of marsh (423 acres total) using sediment dredged from Turtle Bay. At this time, it is expected that the area will be fully contained with containment dike borrow from both inside and outside of the marsh creation cell. Containment dikes will be degraded as necessary to reestablish hydrologic connectivity with adjacent wetlands. In case the area does not re-vegetate on its own, the maintenance cost estimate includes funds to plant 25% of the created marsh at Year 3.

Project Benefits:

The project will result in approximately 343 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

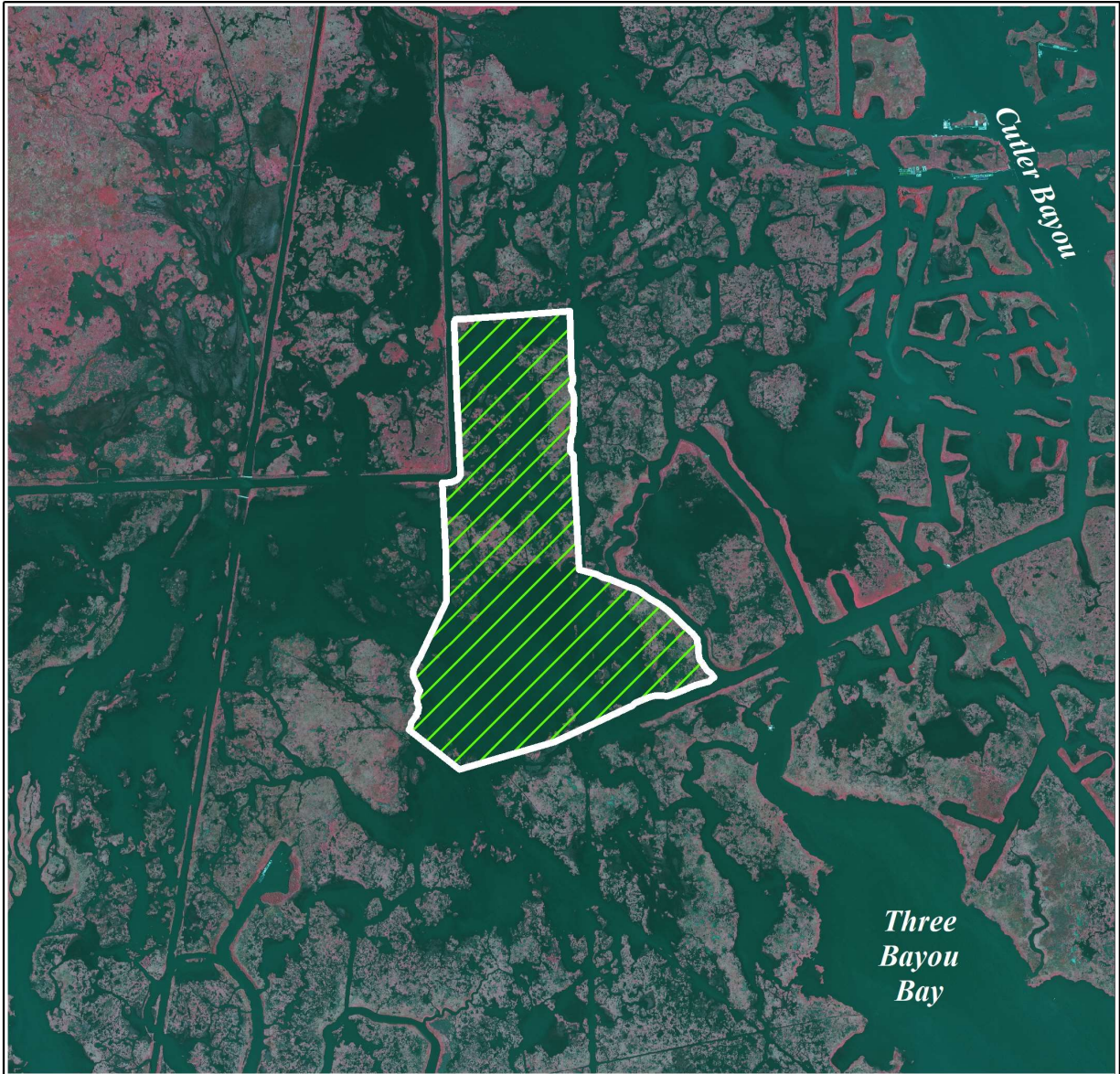
The total fully-funded cost is \$37,207,763.

Preparers of Fact Sheet:

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Kyle Cappotto, USDA-NRCS, 318-473-7737, Kyle.Cappotto@usda.gov



Northeast Turtle Bay Marsh Creation Extension (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
-  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Scale: 1:30,000

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, LA

Map ID: 2021-11-0021
Map Date: July 8, 2021

Image Source:
2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 Southeast Golden Meadow Marsh Creation

Project Location:

Region 2, Barataria Basin, Lafourche Parish, Southeast of Golden Meadow

Problem:

The project area has experienced extensive loss of emergent wetlands from subsidence, storms, canal dredging, and altered hydrology. Wetland loss has increased the vulnerability of the South Lafourche Hurricane Protection Levee to damage from tropical storms. Based on the land-water analysis conducted by USGS for the extended project boundary, the land loss rate in the project area is -0.55% per year for the period 1984 to 2020.

Goals:

The primary goal of this project is to restore marsh southeast of Golden Meadow near the alignment of the South Lafourche Hurricane Protection Levee. The specific goal of the project is to create approximately 354 acres (292 acres of marsh creation and 62 acres of marsh nourishment) of marsh with dredged material from Bayou Lafourche.

Service goals include restoration/protection of habitat for at-risk species. This project would restore habitat potentially utilized by the threatened black rail and other at-risk species such as the seaside sparrow and saltmarsh topminnow.

Proposed Solution:

Sediments from Bayou Lafourche will be hydraulically dredged and pumped via pipeline to create/nourish approximately 354 acres of marsh. The proposed design is to place the dredged material to a slurry height of +2.7 ft NAVD88 with a target marsh elevation of +0.82 ft NAVD88. Dewatering and compaction of dredged sediments should produce elevations conducive to the establishment of emergent marsh and within the intertidal range. Containment dikes will be gapped at the end of construction.

Project Benefits:

The project would result in 279 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

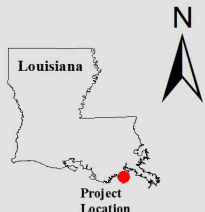
The total fully-funded cost is \$35,831,506.

Preparer of Fact Sheet:

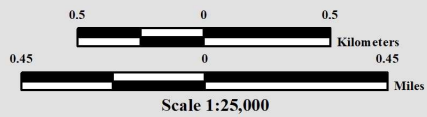
Kevin Roy, USFWS, kevin_roy@fws.gov, 337-291-3120



Southeast Golden Meadow Marsh Creation (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
-  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2021-11-0022
Map Date: July 28, 2021

Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal and Ocean Restoration Branch
Baton Rouge, La
Image Source:
2019 NAIP Photography

Candidate Projects Located in Region 3

PPL31 Jug Lake Marsh Creation and Terracing Project

Project Location

Region 3, Terrebonne Basin, Terrebonne Parish, west of Lake De Cade

Problem

The Terrebonne Basin is an abandoned delta complex, characterized by a thick section of unconsolidated sediments that are undergoing dewatering compaction, contributing to high subsidence. Historically, subsidence, saltwater intrusion, hurricanes, and numerous oil and gas pipelines in the area have contributed significantly to wetland losses. Since 1932, the Terrebonne Basin has lost approximately 20% of its wetlands. Current loss rates range from approximately 4,500 to 6,500 acres/year. This loss amounts to approximately 130,000 acres over the next 20 years. One-third of the Terrebonne Basin's remaining wetlands would be lost to open water by the year 2040. The wetland loss rate in the area is -0.10%/year estimated by USGS with a subsidence of at least 8.8 mm/y.

Goals

The project goals are to construct 18,000 linear feet of terraces (10 acres) and create/nourish 395 acres of intermediate marsh within the intertidal range for the 20 year project life.

Proposed Solution

Sediments from Jug Lake and/or Bay Raccourci will be hydraulically dredged and pumped via pipeline to create 351 acres of marsh and nourish 44 acres of marsh. Dewatering and compaction of dredged sediments should produce elevations conducive to the establishment of emergent marsh and within the intertidal range. Containment dikes will be constructed around each marsh creation cell. Containment dikes will be gapped at the end of construction or by TY3. The terrace fields, consisting of 18,000 linear feet of terraces (10 acres), will be constructed by using sediments from adjacent water bottoms.

Project Benefits

The project would result in 359 acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs

The fully-funded cost is \$38,062,307.

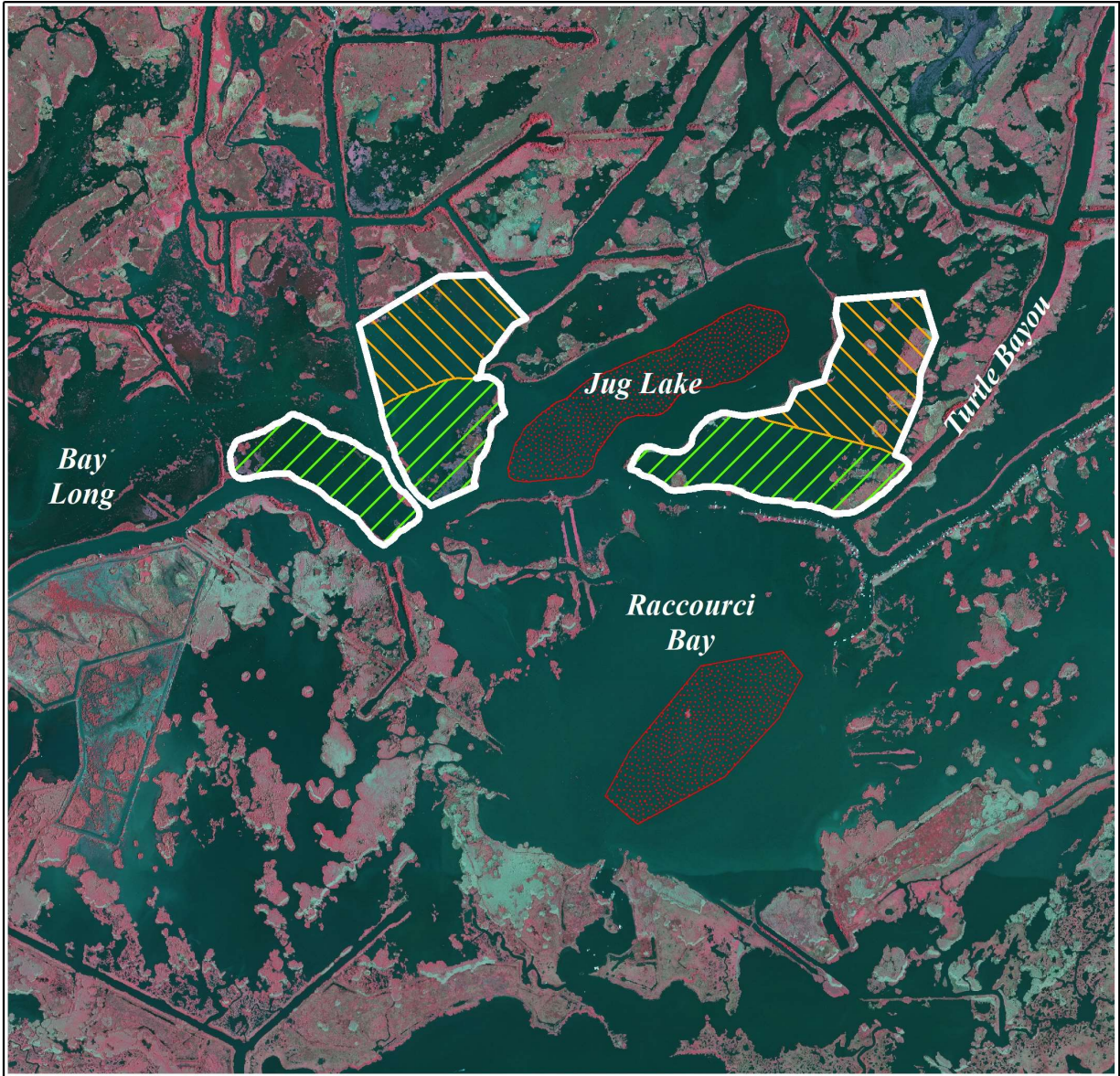
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
Ron Boustany, NRCS, (337) 291-3067, ron.boustany@usda.gov

Eric Whitney, NRCS, Engineer, (337) 291-3069, eric.whitney@usda.gov



Jug Lake Marsh Creation and Terracing (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
-  Terrace Field *
-  Borrow Site *
-  Project Boundary

* denotes proposed features



Scale: 1:40,000

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, LA

Map ID: 2021-11-0020
Map Date: August 19, 2021

Image Source:
2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 Port Fourchon Marsh Creation

Project Location:

Region 3, Terrebonne Basin, Lafourche Parish

Problem:

Historic wetland loss in the project area stems from subsidence, sediment deprivation, and construction of pipeline canals. According to USGS data, nearly 324,000 ac of land were lost between 1932 and 2010 within the basin, which had the highest land loss rate in the state from 1985 to 2004. Wetlands have been replaced by open water where canals are dug, while spoil banks convert them to upland habitat. Bounded by Bayou Lafourche to the east and Timbalier Bay to the west the project area is also subject to shoreline erosion. Land loss rate is estimated at -1.56%.

Goals:

The primary goals of this project are to restore degraded wetland habitat and provide increased protection from storm surge and flooding. Specific goals of the project are to create approximately 514 acres and nourish approximately 91 acres of marsh with dredged material from Belle Pass. The project would also evaluate the use of Belle Pass sediment for coastal Restoration and demonstrate cost sharing opportunities with local stakeholders. This project helps to further EPA CWPPRA Team goals by improving local community resilience, restoring wetland habitats and protecting critical infrastructure, and supporting stakeholder priorities in synergy with EPA's mission.

Proposed Solution:

Create/nourish 605 acres of wetlands by converting open water into marsh and nourishing existing marsh remnants with sediment hydraulically dredged from a borrow source in Belle Pass. Temporary containment dikes will be constructed and gapped within three years of construction to allow greater tidal exchange and estuarine organism access. Restoration in this area would build the area's defenses against hurricanes and flooding.

Project Benefits:

The project would result in 450 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

The total fully-funded cost without Port Fourchon Cost share is \$37,075,992

The total fully-funded cost with Port Fourchon Cost share is \$29,696,971.

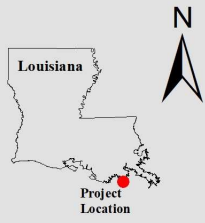
Preparer of Fact Sheet:

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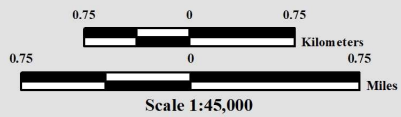


Gulf of Mexico

Port Fourchon Marsh Creation (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
-  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2021-11-0023
Map Date: July 21, 2021

Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal and Ocean Restoration Branch
Baton Rouge, La
Image Source:
2019 NAIP Photography

PPL 31 West Louisiana Highway 1 Marsh Creation

Project Location:

Region 3, Terrebonne Basin, Lafourche Parish

Problem:

The Terrebonne Basin is an abandoned delta complex, characterized by a thick section of unconsolidated sediments that are undergoing dewatering and compaction, contributing to high subsidence, and a network of old distributary ridges extending southward from Houma. Historically, subsidence and numerous oil and gas canals and pipelines in the area have contributed significantly to wetland losses. Since 1932, the Terrebonne Basin has lost approximately 20% of its wetlands. Current loss rates range from approximately 4,500 to 6,500 acres per year. This loss amounts to up to 130,000 acres during the next 20 years. One-third of the Terrebonne Basin's remaining wetlands would be lost to open water by the year 2040. The wetland loss rate for the project area is -1.02% per year based on USGS hyper temporal data from 1984 to 2021.

The Louisiana Highway 1 corridor has been getting more attention lately due to the active 2020 storm season where five of six storms forced closures of the highway. The cost-benefit analysis for Phase 2 of the new elevated Louisiana 1 Project showed that each day that Louisiana Highway 1 is closed, inhibiting access to an open Port Fourchon, costs the U.S. \$46 million in oil and gas production and \$528 million in total gross domestic product (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America Grant Program 2020). Creating marsh in this area will help reduce flooding and provide a buffer from storm surge along the highway.

Goals:

The project goals are to create and/or nourish up to 313 acres of emergent saline marsh and establish the marsh within the intertidal range for the 20 year project life.

Proposed Solution:

The proposed project's primary feature is to create and/or nourish approximately 313 acres of emergent saline marsh (261 marsh creation and 52 marsh nourishment). In order to achieve this, sediment will be hydraulically pumped from a borrow source in Laurier Bayou. Containment dikes will be constructed around the marsh creation area to retain sediment during pumping. The containment dikes will be degraded and/or gapped no later than three years post construction. The project will include planting smooth cordgrass plugs installed in strategic locations based on 10% of the acreage.

Project Benefits:

The project would result in 241 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

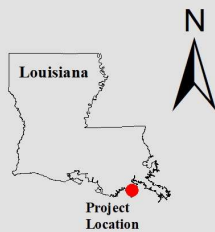
The total fully-funded cost is \$27,760,199.




Preparer(s) of Fact Sheet:

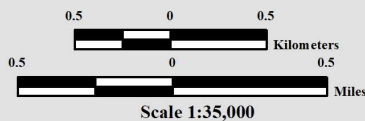
Dawn Davis, NOAA Fisheries, 225-380-0041, dawn.davis@noaa.gov



West Louisiana Highway 1 Marsh Creation (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
 -  Borrow Site *
 -  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2021-11-0016
Map Date: June 30, 2021

Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal and Ocean Restoration Branch
Baton Rouge, La
Image Source:
2019 NAIP Photography

Candidate Projects Located in Region 4

PPL31 Southeast Pecan Island Marsh Creation and Terraces

Project Location:

Region 4, Mermentau Basin, Vermilion Parish, south of Highway 82 and southeast of Pecan Island

Problem:

Highway 82 separates the Lakes Subbasin to the north from the marshes to the south. Low elevations between cheniers historically allowed drainage from the Lakes Subbasin south into the Chenier Subbasin. Virtually all of the project area marshes have become isolated from the movement of freshwater from the upper basin and therefore experienced increased tidal exchange, saltwater intrusion, and reduced freshwater retention. Recent hurricanes have impacted the area and scour has resulted in large open water areas to form that continue to erode from within. Loss rates are estimated at -0.83%/year. Consequently, these marshes are highly deteriorated and considered a priority for restoration in the state's Master Plan.

Goals:

The goals of this project are to create and nourish marsh from material dredged from the Gulf of Mexico and create several terrace fields to help stabilize the project area.

Proposed Solution:

The project would create 285 acres of marsh and nourish 49 acres. In addition, 28,560 linear feet (16 acres) of terraces would be constructed in the most degraded location of the project area. Material for marsh creation and nourishment will be borrowed from the Gulf. The marsh creation areas will be fully contained but existing berms will be used as much as possible to maintain much of the marsh creation. Because the project area is mostly classified as intermediate marsh, the marsh creation will not be planted, but the terraces will be planted with smooth cordgrass on the toe and seashore paspalum on the crown.

Project Benefits:

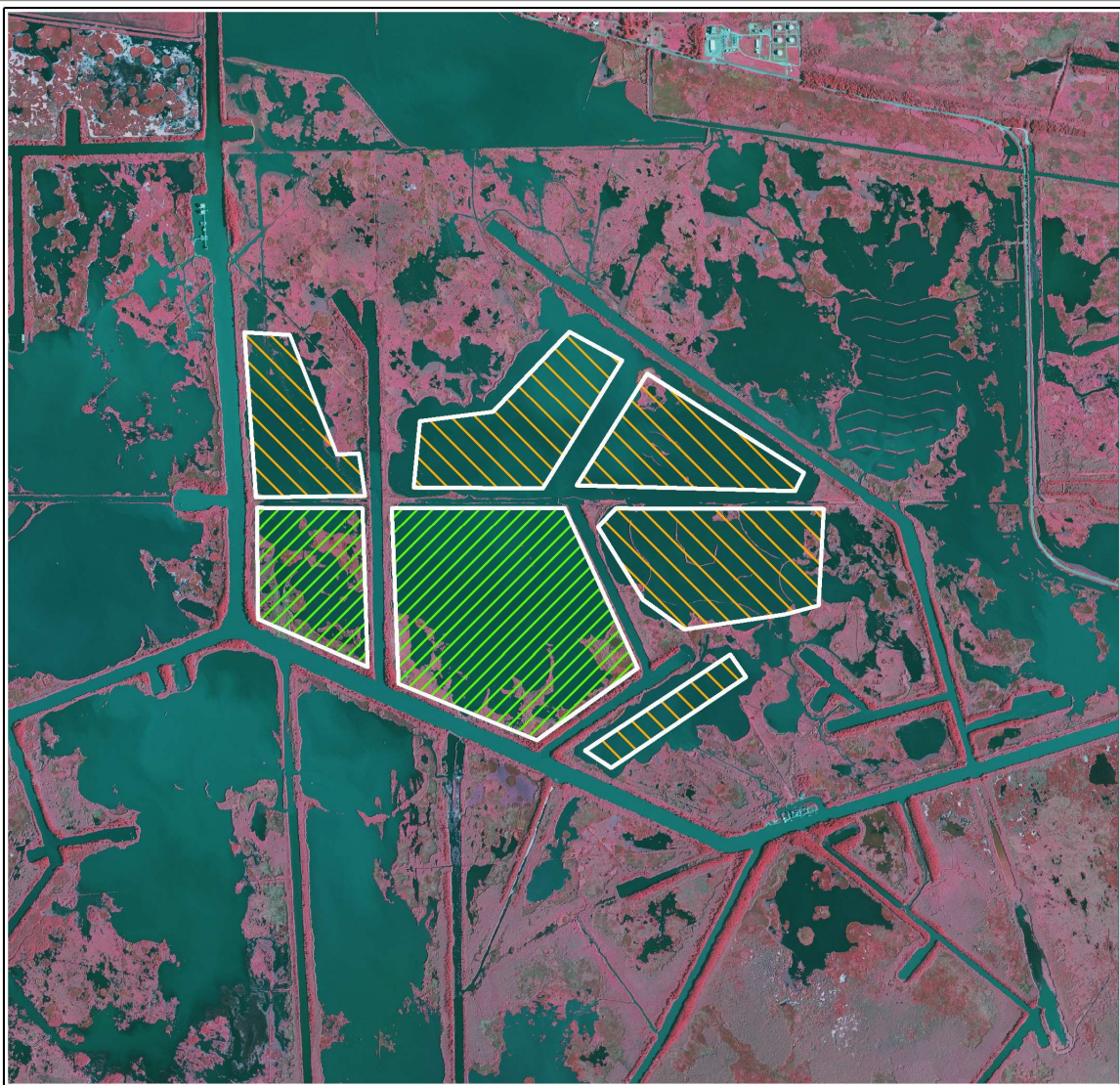
The project would result in approximately 280 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

The total fully-funded cost is \$42,135,698.

Preparers of Fact Sheet:

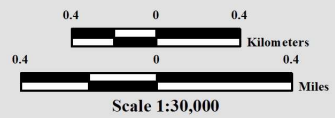
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Eric Whitney, NRCS, (337) 291-3069, eric.whitney@usda.gov



**Southeast Pecan Island Marsh Creation and Terraces
(PPL31 Candidate)**



- Marsh Creation *
 - Terrace Field *
 - Project Boundary *
- * denotes proposed features



Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2021-11-0013
Map Date: July 02, 2021

Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, La
Image Source:
2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 East Cove Marsh Creation

Project Location:

Region 4, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin, Cameron Parish, East Cove Unit of the Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge along the south shore of Calcasieu Lake.

Problem:

The marshes within the Cameron Creole Watershed have suffered extensive losses due to subsidence, sea level rise, salinity intrusion and Hurricanes Rita, Ike and, most recently, Hurricane Laura. According to the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin Report (2019), saline and brackish marsh in this area is degraded and impounded causing flood stress to the point of low productivity resulting in greater elevation and land loss, especially during high-energy storm events. Based on analysis conducted by USGS, loss rates in the project extended boundary are estimated to be -1.89% per year for the period 1984 to 2020. This area has therefore been the focus of coastal restoration efforts involving hydrologic restoration, freshwater diversions, terracing and marsh creation. Marsh creation would quickly restore marshes and reduce the volume of tidal flux into the area to stabilize conditions for existing marsh.

Goals:

The goal of the project is to restore brackish and saline marsh within the Cameron Creole Watershed. This project is part of an overall, long-range, restoration goal which would create/nourish 3,100 acres of marsh south of Calcasieu Lake near Cameron to create new wetland habitat and restore degraded marsh. (2017 Coastal Master Plan No. 004.MC.23, Calcasieu Ship channel Marsh Creation).

Proposed Solution:

Sediment will be hydraulically dredged from a borrow area in the southeastern portion of Calcasieu Lake and approximately 2.8 million cubic yards will be placed into two marsh creation areas totaling 355 acres (325 acres marsh creation and 30 acres marsh nourishment) to an elevation conducive for marsh creation. Target elevations will be designed to support saline marsh, to ensure it is within the optimal inundation range, and in consideration of the prolonged flooding of the basin. Containment dikes would be constructed around the marsh creation areas to keep material onsite during pumping. Once pumping has been completed, the containment dikes will be gapped and/or degraded no later than TY3. Plantings are proposed at 50% of the project area should the area not vegetate naturally by TY3.

Project Benefits:

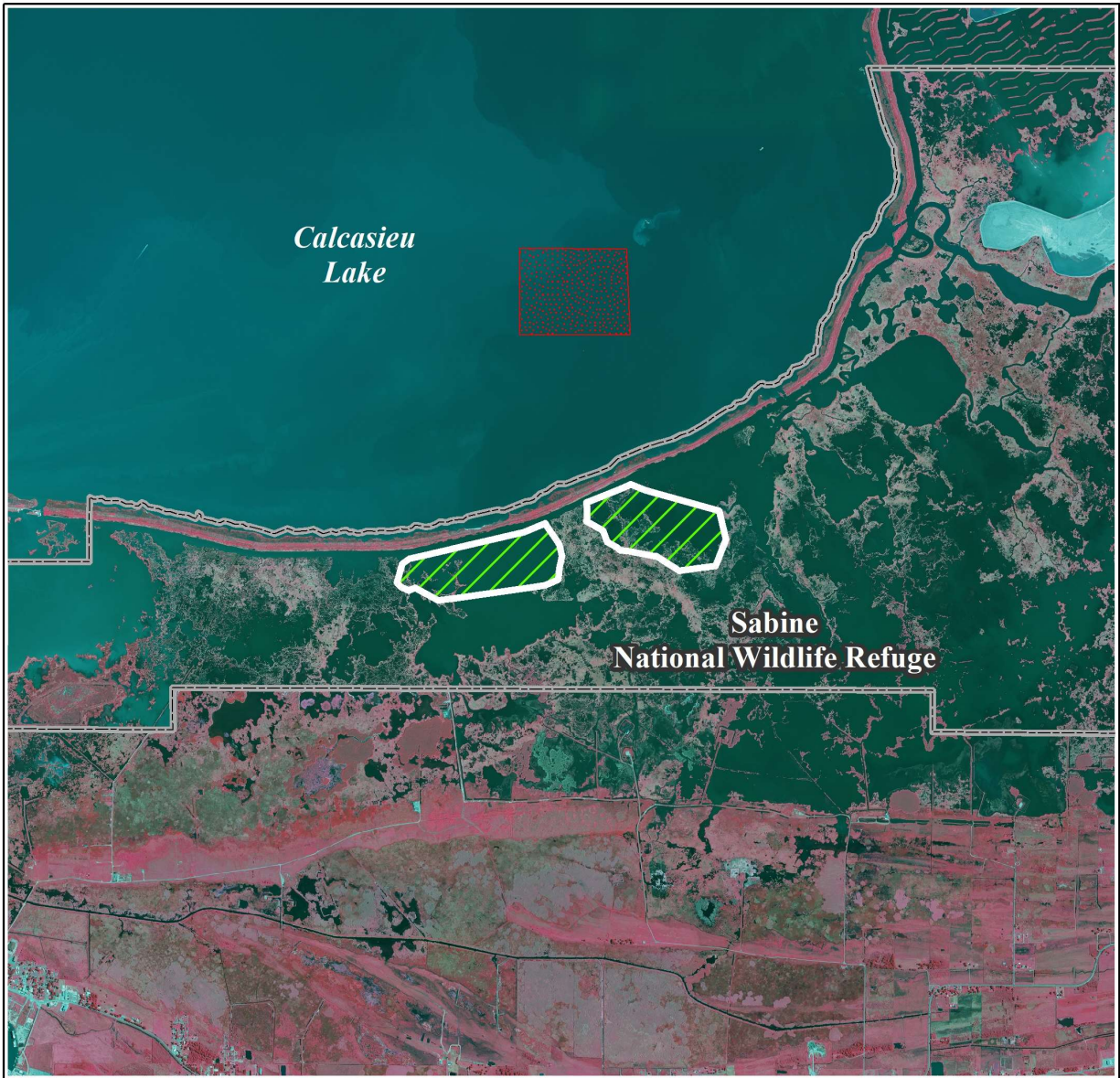
The project would result in 274 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

The total fully-funded cost is \$29,114,437.

Preparer of Fact Sheet:

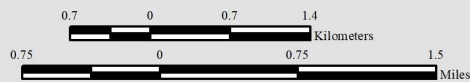
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East Cove Marsh Creation (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
 -  Borrow Site *
 -  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Map Produced By:
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 U.S. Geological Survey
 National Wetlands Research Center
 Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
 Baton Rouge, LA

Map ID: 2021-11-0018
 Map Date: September 21, 2021

Scale: 1:40,000

Image Source:
 2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 Mud Lake South Marsh Creation

Project Location:

Region 4, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin, Cameron Parish. The project is located approximately 1 mile east of Holly Beach, north of LA Hwy 82.

Problem:

The project proposed is a fragmented wetland area located immediately west of Mud Lake, just north of LA Hwy 27. The area has experienced wetland loss due to storm events, subsidence and saltwater intrusion. In August of 2020, Hurricane Laura made landfall in Cameron Parish as a Category 4 hurricane and decimated the town of Holly Beach, LA. Holly Beach was the staging area for the WVA field trip in PPL29. The Mud Lake S Marsh Creation Candidate polygon is less than 1 mile north and east of Holly Beach. Loss rates are estimated at -1.05%/year.

Goals:

The primary goals of this project are to restore degraded wetland habitat and provide increased protection from storm surge and flooding. Specific goals of the project are to create approximately 271 acres and nourish approximately 50 acres of marsh with dredged material dredged from the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, 6.5 acres of tidal creeks and ponds will be created.

Proposed Solution:

The proposed project would create/nourish approximately 321 acres of marsh using sediment dredged from the Gulf of Mexico. The dredged material would be fully contained. Containment dikes would be degraded as necessary to reestablish hydrologic connectivity with adjacent wetlands. The created marsh would be planted.

Project Benefits:

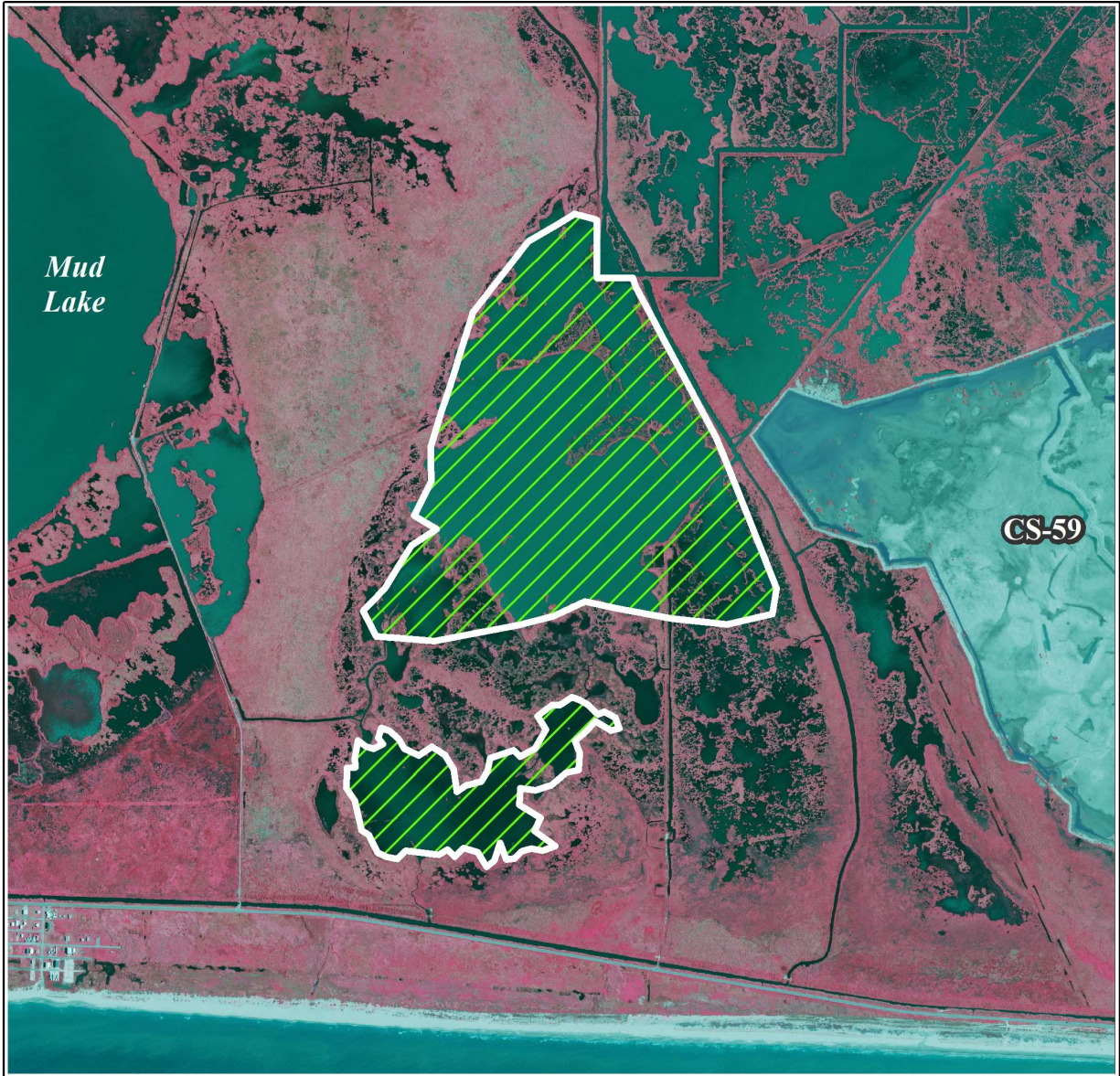
The project would result in 243 net acres over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:

The total fully-funded cost is \$26,824,157.

Preparer of Fact Sheet:

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Brad Crawford, P.E., EPA; (214) 665-7255; Crawford.brad@epa.gov



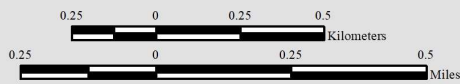
Mud Lake South Marsh Creation (PPL31 Candidate)



-  Marsh Creation *
-  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed features



Map Produced By:
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 U.S. Geological Survey
 National Wetlands Research Center
 Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
 Baton Rouge, LA



Scale: 1:20,000

Map ID: 2021-11-0019
 Map Date: July 7, 2021

Image Source:
 2019 NAIP CIR

PPL31 Candidate Project Evaluation Matrix

10/28/2021

Project Name	Region	Parish	Project Area (acres)	Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHU)	Net Acres	Total Fully Funded Cost	Fully-Funded Phase I Cost	Fully-Funded Phase II Cost incl O&M	Average Annual Cost (AAC)	Cost Effectiveness (AAC/AAHU)	Cost Effectiveness (Cost/Net Acre)
Spanish Lake-Grand Lake Marsh Creation	2	Plaquemines	683	196	437	\$45,868,847	\$4,234,319	\$41,634,528	\$2,757,708	\$14,063	\$104,963
Grand Bayou Ridge and Marsh Restoration - Increment 2	2	Plaquemines	395	168	302	\$42,657,227	\$3,411,317	\$39,245,910	\$2,540,266	\$15,107	\$141,249
Northeast Turtle Bay Marsh Creation Extension	2	Jefferson	423	187	343	\$37,207,763	\$3,591,775	\$33,615,988	\$2,244,075	\$12,031	\$108,477
Southeast Golden Meadow Marsh Creation	2	Lafourche	354	155	279	\$35,831,506	\$3,054,587	\$32,776,919	\$2,133,090	\$13,731	\$128,428
Jug Lake Marsh Creation and Terracing	3	Terrebonne	693	127	359	\$38,062,307	\$3,663,367	\$34,398,940	\$2,304,179	\$18,145	\$106,023
Port Fourchon Marsh Creation	3	Lafourche	605	241	450	\$37,075,992	\$3,484,176	\$33,591,816	\$2,198,163	\$9,121	\$82,391
West Louisiana Hwy 1 Marsh Creation	3	Terrebonne	313	134	241	\$27,760,199	\$2,680,016	\$25,080,183	\$1,664,727	\$12,450	\$115,188
Southeast Pecan Island Marsh Creation and Terraces	4	Vermilion	742	150	280	\$42,135,698	\$4,189,366	\$37,946,332	\$2,522,643	\$16,767	\$150,485
East Cove Marsh Creation	4	Cameron	355	139	274	\$29,114,437	\$2,765,587	\$26,348,850	\$1,724,081	\$12,440	\$106,257
Mud Lake South Marsh Creation	4	Cameron	321	129	243	\$26,824,157	\$2,809,227	\$24,014,930	\$1,596,419	\$12,334	\$110,387

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

Technical Committee Meeting Announcement

Date: December 9, 2021

Technical Committee Meeting

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Virtual - WebEx

<https://usace1.webex.com/meet/alice.p.kerl>
Meeting Number: 199 743 4008
USA Toll-Free: 844-800-2712
Access Code: 199 743 4008

The evaluation results will be presented for all the PPL 31 candidate projects. The public is invited to attend and provide comments on the candidate projects. The Technical Committee will vote & recommend projects for PPL 31 selection. The Technical Committee will also consider requests for construction (Phase II) approvals.

**Written comments may be provided no later than
December 2, 2021 to the CWPPRA Task Force by mail or email
to:**

**Colonel Stephen F. Murphy
District Engineer, New Orleans
c/o: Sarah C. Bradley
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118**

Email:

Sarah.C.Bradley@usace.army.mil

