Region 4 Regional Planning Team

Priority Project List 12 Areas of Need/Opportunity Ranking Meeting Summary Report February 28, 2002

Mermentau Basin Meeting, February 28, 2002, Rockefeller Refuge, Grand Chenier, LA

33 persons attended the Mermentau Basin meeting comprising of 1 state representative, 20 agency personnel, 3 academics, 3 landowners, 2 parish reps., 1 consultant, 1 general public, 1 Ducks Unlimited rep., and 1 Acadiana Bay rep.

Areas of Need, Opportunities Nominated and Selected

1. Shoreline South of White Lake north of Pecan Island to LA Hwy 82 -

The south White Lake shoreline is experiencing shoreline erosion that is threatening the community of Pecan Island and its critical infrastructure. The area contains low levees subject to rapid "break-throughs" that may extend to the Pecan Island community and LA Hwy 82 if a levee break occurs along the lake shore.

2. Gulf Shoreline from Joseph's Harbor on Rockefeller Refuge Towards Chenier Au Tigre.

The Gulf shoreline along Rockefeller Refuge is eroding at rates of 40 ft/yr or more.

Strategies Suggested for Selected Areas

1. South White Lake Shoreline North of Pecan Island to White Lake (approximately from Bear Lake to Wills Point)

Regional Strategies -

- 1. Operate locks to evacuate excess water over the operational plan from the Lakes Subbasin.
- 2. Operate existing Calcasieu Lock specifically to evacuate excess water, after building a new lock on a parallel channel specifically for navigation and follow implementation of new lock structure.
- 3. Manage watershed to reduce rapid inflows into the Mermentau Lakes Subbasin.
- 4. Move water from Lakes Subbasin across Highway 82 with outfall management and flood protection where needed.

- 6. Dedicated dredging or beneficial use of sediment for wetland creation or protection
- 15. Stabilize Grand Lake and White Lake shoreline

Coastwide Common Strategies listed included: Dedicated Dredging to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Herbivory Control; Maintenance of Gulf, Bay and Lake Shoreline Integrity; Vegetative Plantings; Maintain, Protect or Restore Ridge Functions; and Terracing.

Mapping Unit Strategies

South White Lake Mapping Unit - 41 - Protect shorelines.

2. Gulf Shoreline from Joseph's Harbor on Rockefeller Refuge Towards Chenier Au Tigre.

Regional Strategies -

- 6. Dedicated dredging or beneficial use of sediment for wetland creation or protection
- 16. Stabilize Gulf of Mexico Shoreline from Old Mermentau River to Dewitt Canal.
- 18. Maintain Atchafalaya River mudstream in the Gulf of Mexico.

Coastwide Common Strategies listed included: Dedicated Dredging to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Maintenance of Gulf, Bay and Lake Shoreline Integrity; Maintain, Protect or Restore Ridge Functions; Terracing; Off-shore Riverine Sand and Sediment Resources; and Diversions and Riverine Discharge.

Mapping Unit Strategies

Rockefeller Unit - 36. Protect shorelines

South Pecan Island Unit - 38. Dedicated Dredging, 39. Shoreline Protection to Prevent

Coalescence of White Lake and the Gulf, 40. Terracing/Vegetative Plantings

Calcasieu-Sabine Basin Meeting, February 28, 2002, Rockefeller Refuge, Grand Chenier, LA

32 persons attended the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin meeting consisting of 18 agency reps., 3 academics, 6 landowners, 3 parish representatives, 1 consultant, and 1 Ducks Unlimited rep.

Areas of Need, Opportunities Nominated and Selected

1. Second Lake-E. Mud Lake-Oyster Bayou Area (South of West Cove Calcasieu Lake)

There is an opportunity, in the Second Bayou area, to move fresh water eastward to the East Mud Lake and the Oyster Bayou areas to reduce elevated salinities. The Oyster Bayou area has experienced elevated salinities and marsh loss due to the Calcasieu Ship Channel. The area is needed to be protected as part of perimeter salinity control. (Cameron Parish's No. 1 area of support).

2. West Brown's Lake Area (Sabine NWR West of Browns Lake)

There is an opportunity to use Calcasieu Ship Channel dredged material beneficially to restore marshes in this area and possibly in areas north of the refuge.

3. North Turners Bay Area

There is a need for shoreline stabilization along the northern shoreline of Turners Bay. Beneficial use of dredged material may be placed in the area (Garrison Property Marsh Creation) this year by the Corps as part of the federal standard for the ship channel maintenance dredging.

Strategies Suggested for Selected Areas

1. Second Lake-E. Mud Lake-Oyster Bayou Area

Regional Strategies -

- 6. Dedicated dredging or beneficial use of sediment for wetland creation or protection
- 8. Restore hydrologic and salinity conditions throughout Region 4 to protect wetlands from hydrologic modification and maintain navigation where necessary.

Coastwide Common Strategies listed included: Beneficial Use of Dredged Material from Maintenance Operations to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Dedicated Dredging to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Management of Pump and Gravity-flow Outfall for Wetland Benefits; Vegetative Plantings; and Terracing.

Mapping Unit Strategies

Mud Lake Unit - 74. Beneficial Use of Dredged Material, 75. Improve Hydrology Second Bayou Unit - 87. Improve Hydrology

2. West Brown's Lake Area

Regional Strategies -

6. Dedicated dredging or beneficial use of sediment for wetland creation or protection

Coastwide Common Strategies listed included: Beneficial Use of Dredged Material from Maintenance Operations to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Dedicated Dredging to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Vegetative Plantings; and Terracing.

Mapping Unit Strategies

Brown Lake Unit - 51. Beneficial Use of Dredged Material, 53. Terracing/Vegetative Plantings

3. North Turners Bay Area

Regional Strategies -

6. Dedicated dredging or beneficial use of sediment for wetland creation or protection

Coastwide Common Strategies listed included: Beneficial Use of Dredged Material from Maintenance Operations to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; Dedicated Dredging to Create, Restore or Protect Wetlands; and Maintenance of Gulf, Bay and Lake Shoreline Integrity.

Mapping Unit Strategies

Big Lake Unit - 42. Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

Submitted 3-06-02 - Darryl Clark, USFWS