October 2009
Cost figures as of: March 2013

Bayou Dupont Ridge Creation and Marsh Restoration (BA-48)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2007 **Project Area:** 309 acres
Approved Funds: $37.9 M **Total Est. Cost:** $38.5 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 186 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 17

Location

This project is located within the Barataria Basin in Jefferson Parish. It is specifically located along Bayou Dupont southeast of the enclosure known as the Pen.

Problems

There is widespread historic and continued rapid land loss within the project site and surrounding areas resulting from subsidence, wind erosion, storms, and altered hydrology. Land loss data provided by the U.S. Geological Survey indicates that loss is occurring at a rate of 1.7% per year, which is significant within any watershed. Furthermore, the natural limits of Bayou Dupont are difficult to determine in some areas because land loss is causing the coalescence of the bayou with adjacent water bodies. Natural tidal flow and drainage patterns that once existed through the bayou are currently circumvented by the increasing area of open water.

Aerial View of Bayou Dupont Project Area

Restoration Strategy

Project goals include 1) creating and nourishing approximately 300 acres of marsh through pipeline sediment delivery from the Mississippi River, and 2) creating a ridge along a portion of the southwestern shoreline of Bayou Dupont. Sediment from the river will be hydraulically pumped to the project site to construct both the marsh and ridge features. The ridge is being designed to mimic the configuration of other natural ridges within the watershed, which will include a constructed elevation conducive for the growth of native vegetation such as live oak, hackberry, and Yaupon. The ridge will help redefine the limits of Bayou Dupont and reestablish the natural bank that once flanked the bayou and protected adjacent marshes.

Progress to Date

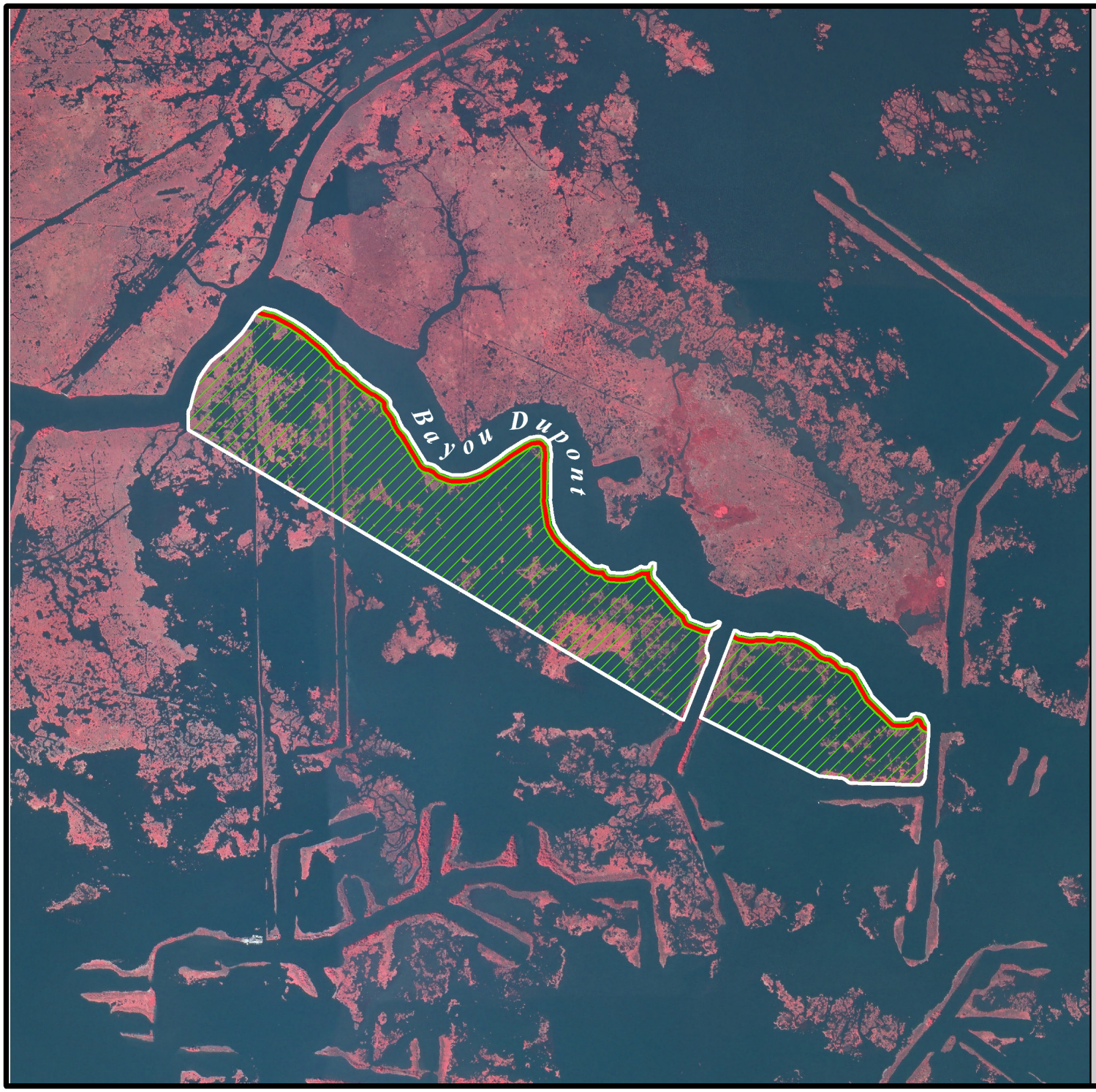
Construction funds will be requested in Fall 2010.

This project is on Priority Project List 17.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
National Marine Fisheries Service
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 389-0508

Local Sponsor:
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-4736



Bayou Dupont Marsh and Ridge Creation (BA-48)

Ridge Creation *

Marsh Creation *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world

N

0.1 0 0.1 0.2 Kilometers

0.1 0 0.1 0.2 Miles

Map Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:
2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: November 08, 2007
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Data accurate as of: August 23, 2007