November 2009
Cost figures as of: March 2013

Grand Liard Marsh and Ridge Restoration (BA-68)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2009 **Project Area:** 484 acres
Approved Funds: $42.0 M **Total Est. Cost:** $42.5 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 370 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 18

Location

The project is located in Region 2, within the Barataria Basin portion of Plaquemines Parish. The project is specifically located within the Bastian Bay and Grand Liard mapping units, near the vicinity of Triumph.

Problems

The Bastion Bay and Grand Liard mapping units were historically structured by a series of north south bayous and associated ridges. Over the preceding decades the majority of these bayou ridges and the marshes flanking them have disappeared. The Grand Liard ridge is the most prominent remaining ridge, and separates the open bays of the Bastian Bay and Grand Liard mapping units. Past land loss projections indicate a loss rate of -3.3%/yr; and also suggest that the remaining bayou bank wetlands will be completely converted to open water by 2050.

Bayou Grand Liard Ridge

Restoration Strategy

The project is intended to restore both structural and habitat functions of Grand Liard Bayou and flanking marshes. The conceptual project design includes the creation of approximately 328 acres of marsh and nourishment of an additional 140 acres of existing marsh. The project concept also includes restoration of a ridge on the east bank of Bayou Grand Liard. Approximately 50% of the created marsh will be planted upon construction with plugs of smooth cordgrass, and the entire ridge will be planted with appropriate woody vegetation. As well, high marsh species will be planted on the slopes of the ridge. After settlement, the containment dikes will be gapped to encourage establishment of natural marsh hydrology and fisheries support functions.

Progress to Date

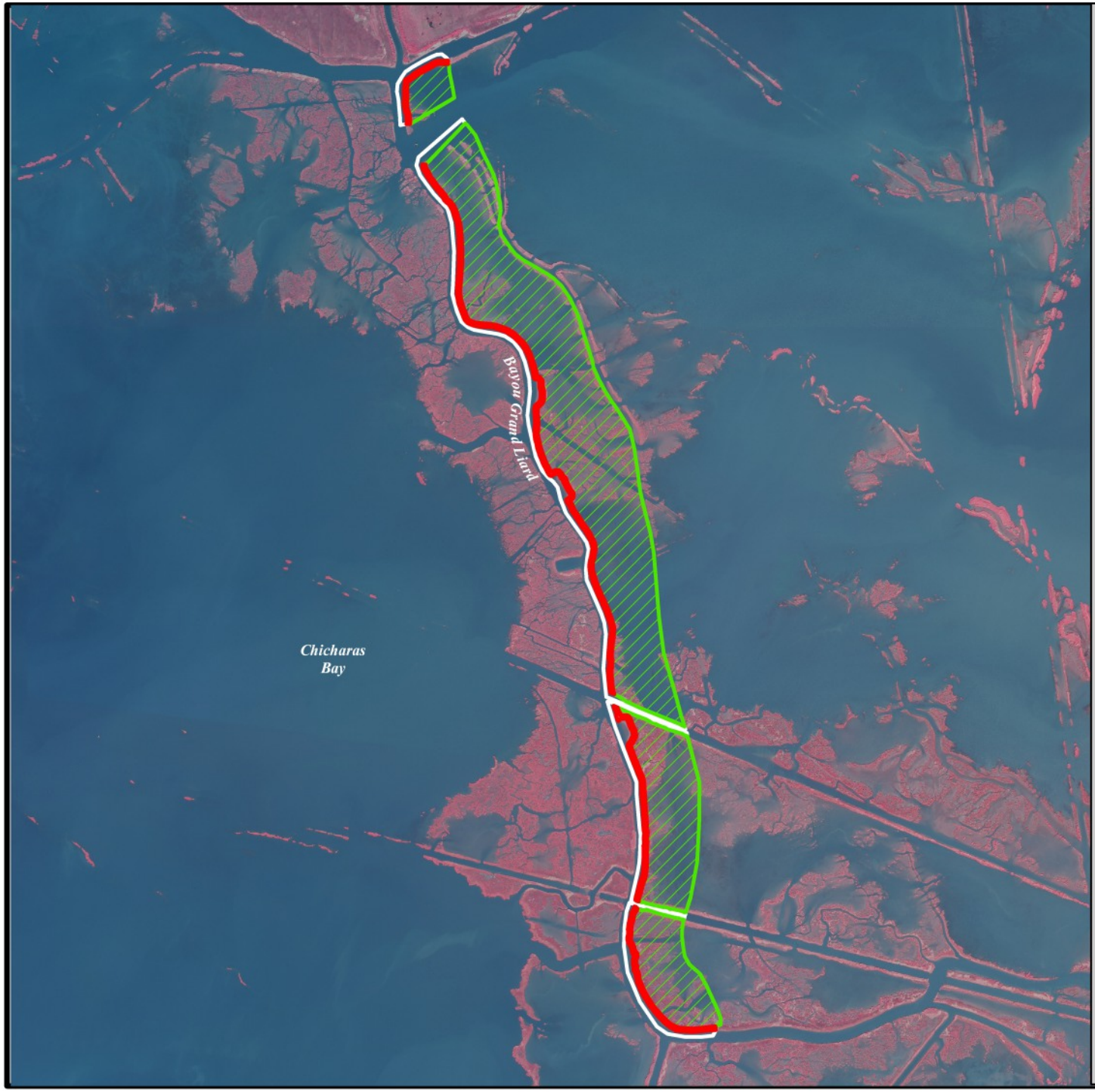
The project was approved for Phase 1, full engineering and design, in January 2009. Project design is on-going and request for construction funds is anticipated for fall 2011.

This project is on Priority Project List 18.

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



Grand Liard Ridge and Marsh Restoration (BA-68)

Ridge Restoration *

Marsh Creation *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world

N

0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Kilometers

0.2 0 0.2 0.4 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:
2008 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: August 27, 2009
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