June 2010
Cost figures as of: March 2013

Cheniere Ronquille Barrier Island Restoration (BA-76)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2010 **Project Area:** 463 acres
Approved Funds: $3.41 M **Total Est. Cost:** $36.7 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 308 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Barrier Island Restoration
PPL #: 19

Location

The project is located in Region 2, within the Barataria Basin portion of Plaquemines Parish.

Problems

This area is undergoing shoreline erosion, interior wetland loss, overwash, and breakup. The Gulf shoreline erosion rate has doubled from 1988 to 2006. Project area marshes also are being eroded at -11.8 ft/yr between 2003 to 2006 as well as being converted to open water from internal breakup.

Restoration Strategy

Restoration would expand the Gulf shoreline structural integrity and associated protection by tying into two recently constructed projects to the east and address one of the remaining reaches of the Barataria/Plaquemines shoreline. The design includes fill for a beach and dune plus 20-years of advanced maintenance fill, as well as fill for marsh creation/nourishment. The location of the type and amount of sediment needed to construct this project already has been identified under the East Grand Terre Project that is presently under construction. Approximately 127 acres of beach/dune fill would be constructed and approximately 259 acres of marsh creation/nourishment would be constructed. Intensive dune plantings would be conducted by seeding and installing approved nursery stock. About half of the marsh platform would be planted with cordgrass and portions of the dune, swale, and marsh would be planted with appropriate woody species. Containment dikes would be breached no later than year three to allow tidal exchange with the created marsh.

Progress to Date

This project is on Priority Project List 19.

This photo shows the current condition of the Chenier Ronquille shoreline, which is in a deteriorated state after being subjected to years of storms, subsidence, and sediment deprivation. Once restored, this island will provide critical habitat, and help reconnect the barrier island chain that provides a first line of defense to inland communities.

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

Cheniere Ronquille Barrier Island Restoration (BA-76)

Dune/Beach *

Marsh Creation *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world

Louisiana

N

Project Location

0.25 0 0.25 0.5 Kilometers

0.25 0 0.25 0.5 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: February 9, 2010
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