September 2009
Cost figures as of: March 2013

Cameron-Creole Freshwater Introduction (CS-49)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2009 **Project Area:** 22,247 acres
Approved Funds: $2.54 M **Total Est. Cost:** $12.7 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 473 acres
Status: Planning and Design
Project Type: Freshwater Diversion
PPL #: 18

Location

The project area is located on the east side of Calcasieu Lake and west of Gibbstown Bridge and Highway 27.

Problems

Virtually all of the project area marshes have experienced increased tidal exchange, saltwater intrusion, and reduced freshwater retention resulting from hydrologic changes associated with the Calcasieu Ship Channel and the GIWW. In addition, thousands of acres of marsh were damaged by Hurricane Rita and again, more recently, by Hurricane Ike. Because of man-made alterations to the hydrology, it is unlikely that those marshes will recover without comprehensive restoration efforts. The Cameron-Creole Watershed Project has successfully reduced salinities and increased marsh productivity. However, the area remains disconnected from freshwater, sediments, and nutrients available from the GIWW.

Hurricane damaged marsh in the project area to be benefitted by the proposed features.

Restoration Strategy

The freshwater introduction project would restore the function, value, and sustainability to approximately 22,247 acres of marsh and open water by improving hydrologic conditions via freshwater input and increasing organic productivity.

Progress to Date

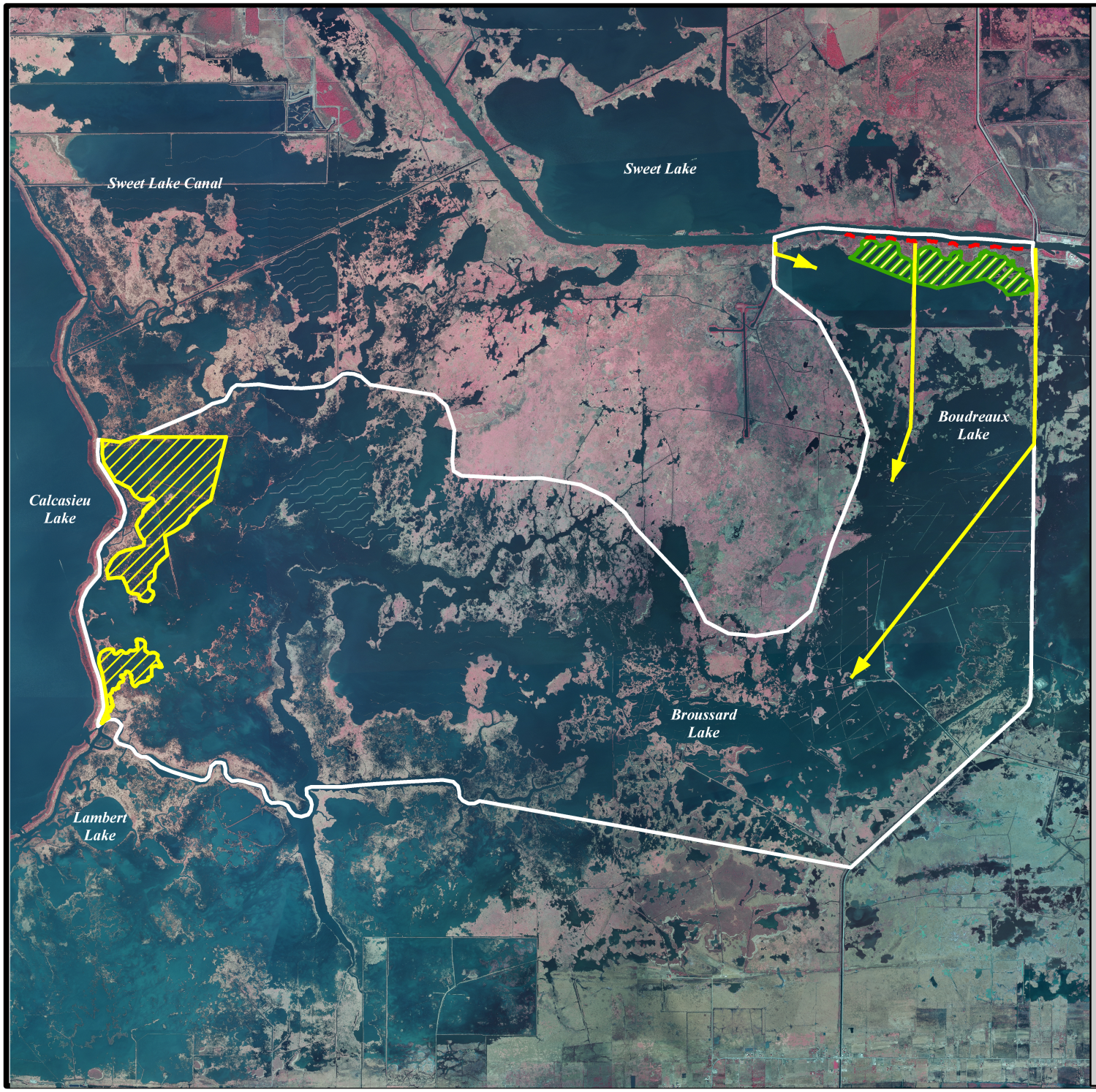
Project is currently in the Planning and Design Phase. Project Team is developing surveying, geotechnical investigations, and modeling requirements necessary to proceed to 30% design review. The planting portion of the project is scheduled to request Phase II funding at the January 2010 Task Force Meeting. Phase II funding for the remaining project features will be requested at the January 2012 Task Force meeting.

This project is on Priority Project List 18.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Alexandria, LA
(318) 473-7756

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



Cameron-Creole Freshwater Introduction (CS-49)

- Shoreline Protection *
- Freshwater Introduction *
- Terrace Field *
- Vegetative Planting Area *
- Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS science for a changing world

N

0.5 0 0.5 1 Kilometers

0.5 0 0.5 1 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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