October 2002
Cost figures as of: March 2013

Whiskey Island Restoration (TE-27)

Project Status

Approved Date: 1993 **Project Area:** 4,926 acres
Approved Funds: $7.10 M **Total Est. Cost:** $7.10 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 1,239 acres
Status: Completed June 2000
Project Type: Barrier Island Restoration
PPL #: 3

Location

Whiskey Island, which is one of five islands that comprise the Isles Dernieres barrier island chain, is located 18 miles southwest of Cocodrie in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. It is bounded by Coupe Colin to the west, Whiskey Pass to the east, Lake Pelto, Caillou Boca, and Caillou Bay to the north, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.

Problems

The Isles Dernieres chain of barrier islands in Louisiana is experiencing land loss and fragmentation as a result of both natural processes and human activities. Whiskey Island was expected to be lost by the year 2007 if no restoration was completed. The entire Isles Dernieres chain was projected to be lost by the year 2010 without restoration.

Restoration Strategy

The project plan consists of the creation of 657 acres of back island marsh, including breach closure of Coupe Nouvelle, using material dredged from the bay north of the island. Barrier island vegetation, including smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora)*, marshhay cordgrass (*Spartina patens)*, bitter panicum (*Panicum amarum)* and black mangrove (*Avicennia germinans)* was planted in the Coupe Nouvelle marsh restoration area and in the restored back bay marsh areas. Sand fencing was also placed on the dune to help capture and retain wind blown sand.

Sediment was pumped to restore 3.2 miles of the island, which was then revegetated. Sand fencing was later added to aid sediment retention.

Progress to Date

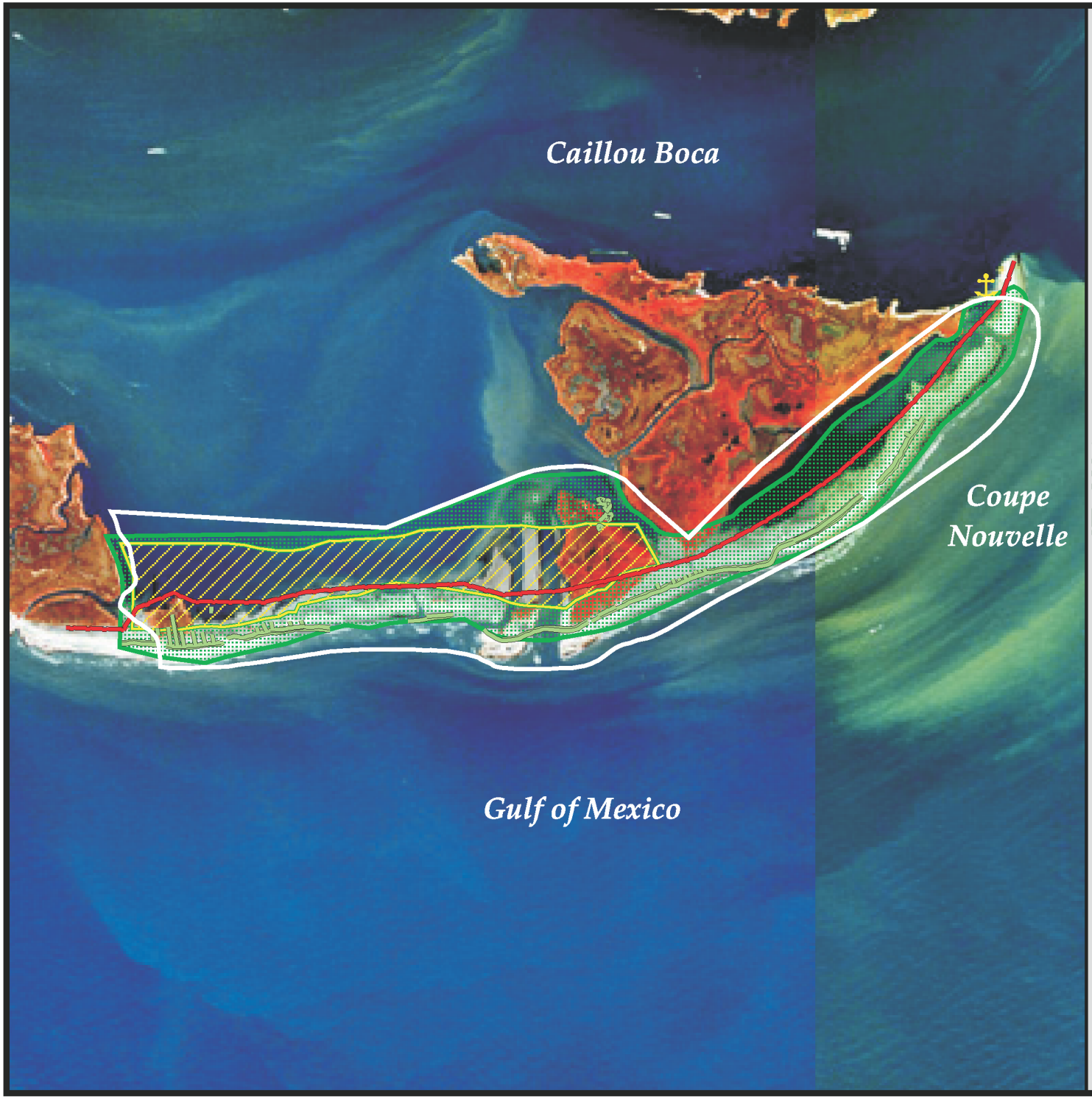
Dredging was initiated on February 13, 1998, and was completed in August 1998. Initial vegetation on the bay shore with the above listed plant species was also completed in July. More vegetation planting was carried out in May and June of 1999, and sand fencing construction was completed in June 2000.

This project is on Priority Project List 3.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dallas, TX
(214) 665-7255

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



Whiskey Island Restoration (TE-27)

- Dock
- Sediment Fence
- Vegetative Planting
- Marsh Creation Area
- Seeding Area
- Project Boundary

USGS science for a changing world

0.25 0 0.25 Miles

0.25 0 0.25 0.5 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: June 10, 2002
Map ID: 2002-11-451
Data accurate as of June 10, 2002