June 2004
Cost figures as of: March 2013

Avoca Island Diversion and Land Building (TE-49)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2003 **Project Area:** 7,233 acres
Approved Funds: $2.22 M **Total Est. Cost:** $19.1 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 143 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Water Diversion
PPL #: 12

Location

The project is located in the Avoca Island area in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The Avoca Island area lost approximately 5,000 acres of marsh between 1932 and 1990. Natural overbank flooding into the area has been eliminated by channelization and construction of flood protection levees, thereby preventing the input of fresh water, sediment, and nutrients.

Restoration Strategy

The goal of this project is to rebuild eroded wetlands in the area through the diversion of fresh water, sediment, and nutrients. A diversion structure will be installed through the Avoca levee to allow water from Bayou Shaffer to enter Avoca Lake at a rate of 1,000 cubic feet per second. A natural bayou will be used as the primary outfall channel for the diversion. Outfall management measures will be evaluated and incorporated to increase benefits to aquatic habitats in the island system.

Progress to Date

The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved funding for engineering and design at the January 2003 Task Force meeting. The project work plan for the engineering and design phase was submitted for program review in May 2003. Engineering data collection, including site surveys and a geotechnical boring, is ongoing.

This project is on Priority Project List 12.

In this aerial view facing southwest, Avoca Island surrounds Avoca Lake in the center of the photograph. Bayou Boeuf is seen in the foreground with Bayou Shaffer in the background.

For more project information, please contact:

US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans, LA
(504) 862-1597

CPRA

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

Avoca Island Diversion and Land Building (TE-49)

- Diversion Structure*
- Sediment Diversion *
- Marsh Creation*
- Project Boundary

*denotes proposed feature

USGS
science for a changing world

0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

0.5 0 0.5 1 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: December 17, 2002
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Data accurate as of: December 17, 2002