rev. September 2015
Cost figures as of: December 2016

Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation (BA-42)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2006 **Project Area:** 1,600 acres
Approved Funds: $38.0 M **Total Est. Cost:** $38.5 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 447 acres
Status: Completed
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 15

Location

The project area is located in the Barataria Basin, south and east of Lake Hermitage in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana near the community of West Pointe a la Hache.

Problems

The project is within the West Pointe a la Hache Mapping Unit which lost 38 percent of its marsh from 1932 to 1990. By the year 2050, 28 percent of the 1990 marsh acreage is expected to be lost. That loss is expected to occur even with operation of the West Pointe a la Hache Siphon (State project BA-04). Significant marsh loss has occurred south and east of Lake Hermitage and along the eastern lake shoreline. Deterioration of the lake rim has exposed interior marshes to the wave energy of Lake Hermitage and increased tidal exchange. Based on USGS land-water data from 1985 and 2006, the project area has an annual loss rate of -1.64%.

Restoration Strategy

The original project features included dredging in the Mississippi River and pumping sediments via pipeline to create 549 acres of marsh. Additionally, 6,300 feet of shoreline restoration using river material and 7,300 linear feet of terraces were included. Fortunately, a favorable bid on the construction contract allowed for project expansion and the marsh creation feature was increased to encompass a total of 795 acres.

Funding from the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources - Office of Coastal Management, and Deepwater Horizon Early Restoration allowed construction of an additional 215 acres of marsh. Terraces were removed from the CWPPRA project to provide an area for marsh creation with Deepwater Horizon Early Restoration funding.

Before and after images show the newly created marsh.

Progress to Date

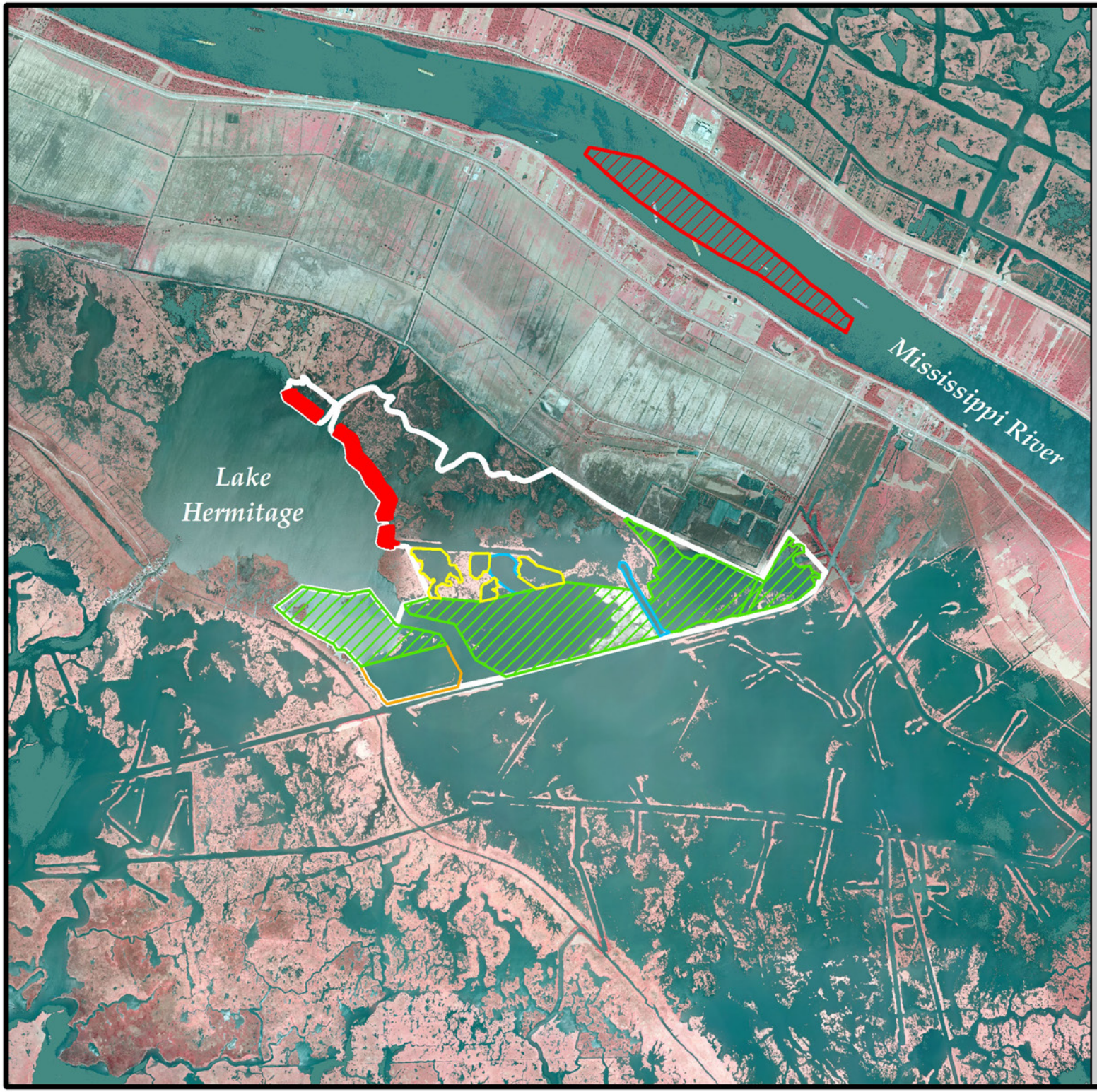
The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved funding for engineering and design in February 2006 and approved construction funding in January 2009. Construction began in February 2012 and was completed in June 2015.

This project is on Priority Project List 15.

For more information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lafayette, LA
(337) 291-3100

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



Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation (BA-42)

- CWPPRA Shoreline Restoration
- CWPPRA Marsh Creation
- Borrow Site
- CWPPRA Project Boundary
- LOSCO Marsh Creation
- NRDA Marsh Creation
- OCM Marsh Creation

USGS science for a changing world

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 Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:
2012 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: September 04, 2015
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Data accurate as of: September 04, 2015