January 2016
Cost figures as of: December 2016

Oyster Lake Marsh Creation and Nourishment (CS-79)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2016 **Project Area:** 661 acres
Approved Funds: $3.60 M **Total Est. Cost:** $38.0 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 438 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 25

Location

The project is located immediately south of Calcasieu Lake and west of the Calcasieu Ship Channel in Regional Planning Unit No. 4, Calcasieu-Sabine Basin, Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The project would restore marsh to offset levels of historic and ongoing wetland loss. Based on USGS and analysis of 1978 to 2000 data and Corps of Engineers data from 1974 to 1990, land loss ranges from 4.8 acres to 18.8 acres per year for the project area. Saltwater intrusion, drought stress, and hurricane induced wetland losses have resulted in interior marsh breakup and coalescence of Oyster Lake with interior water bodies.

Restoration Strategy

The primary goals of the project are to create approximately 475 acres of saline marsh in recently formed shallow open water and to nourish approximately 185 acres of saline marsh.

In order to achieve these goals, sediment would be mined from the offshore disposal area used for CS-59 and placed in multiple disposal areas to create approximately 660 acres of saline marsh. Disposal areas would be constructed between the CS-59 marsh creation areas and terrace field depicted on the concept map (red polygon). Disposal would be semi-confined and up to half of the created elevations would be planted with smooth cordgrass plugs. Possible expansion of the marsh creation area is shown on the concept map as yellow polygons. Although marsh creation via dedicated dredging of sediment would be the primary technique, opportunities may exist to include some terracing where warranted, but that is not included in the benefit/cost estimates at this time.

Example of the shallow open water receiving areas within the Oyster Lake project.

Progress to Date

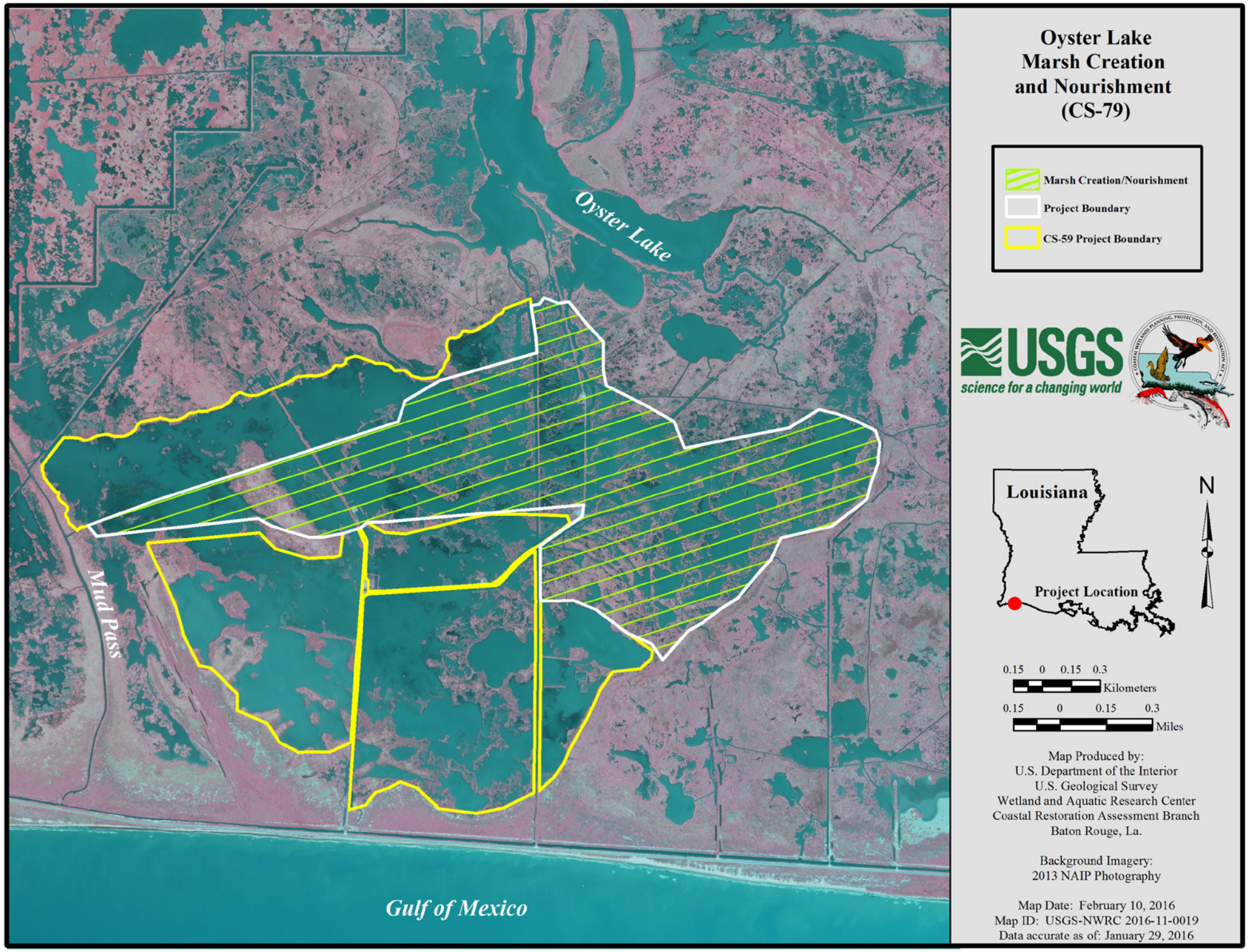
This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in January 2016.

This project is on Priority Project List 25.

For more 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



Oyster Lake Marsh Creation and Nourishment (CS-79)

Marsh Creation/Nourishment

Project Boundary

CS-59 Project Boundary

USGS science for a changing world

Louisiana

Project Location

N

0.15 0 0.15 0.3 Kilometers

0.15 0 0.15 0.3 Miles

Map Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Wetland and Aquatic Research Center
Coastal Restoration Assessment Branch
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:
2013 NAIP Photography

Map Date: February 10, 2016
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2016-11-0019
Data accurate as of: January 29, 2016