rev. November 2014
Cost figures as of: February 2017

Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization (ME-18)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2001 **Project Area:** 450 acres
Approved Funds: $33.3 M **Total Est. Cost:** $34.3 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 256 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Shoreline Protection
PPL #: 10

Location

The project is located along the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge Gulf of Mexico shoreline from Joseph's Harbor canal, westward 3 miles in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The project is designed to address Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge gulf shoreline retreat that averages approximately 46 feet/year with a subsequent direct loss of emergent saline marsh.

Restoration Strategy

The project entails construction of shoreline protection along the Gulf of Mexico. The proposed structure would be tied into the west bank of Joseph Harbor a rock breakwater with lightweight aggregate core, westward for approximately 3 miles. It would be designed to reduce shoreline retreat along this stretch of gulf shoreline, as well as promote shallowing, settling out, and natural vegetative colonization of the overwash material landward of the proposed structure. Gaps within the shoreline protection feature are also proposed to facilitate material and organism linkages.

Progress to Date

The cooperative agreement between the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources has been executed.

Construction feasibility report has been completed.

Project has completed engineering and design.

This project is listed on Priority Project List 10.

Existing beach formation at Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge gulf shoreline. Beach material is primarily made up of lightweight oyster shell fragments (hash).

An example of ongoing shoreline erosion on Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge. Dark areas in photo are remnant organic marsh.

For more project 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

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Shoreline Protection *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world

N

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 03, 2014
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2014-11-0035
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