February 2013
Cost figures as of: January 2017

North Catfish Lake Marsh Creation (TE-112)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2013 **Project Area:** 666 acres
Approved Funds: $3.21 M **Total Est. Cost:** $30.3 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 401 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 22

Location

Region 3, Terrebonne Basin, Lafourche Parish, Northern Shoreline of Catfish Lake.

Problems

Isolated from the riverine influences of the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers, Eastern Terrebonne Basin has experienced some of the highest rates land loss in Louisiana. The northern shoreline of the Catfish Lake has experienced an average erosion rate of approximately 9.8 ft per year with some areas losing as much as 40 ft per year. Interior marsh loss along the lake rim has also formed a large pond on the east side of the lake shoreline that has breached and threatens to greatly accelerate wetland loss in the area.

Restoration Strategy

The goal of the project is to create marsh habitat and reestablish the northern shoreline of Catfish Lake. Sediment dredged from Catfish Lake will be used to strategically create marsh along the northern shoreline. Smooth cordgrass will be planted along the lake shore-face to help stabilize the shoreline and reestablish a healthy lake rim marsh community. Sediments will be hydraulically dredged from Catfish Lake and pumped via pipeline to create approximately 415 acres of marsh habitat and nourish an additional 251 acres of marsh habitat.

Aerial view from the southeast looking towards the northeast section of Catfish Lake. The project will hydraulically dredge material from the lake to restore the fragmented marsh along the lake rim.

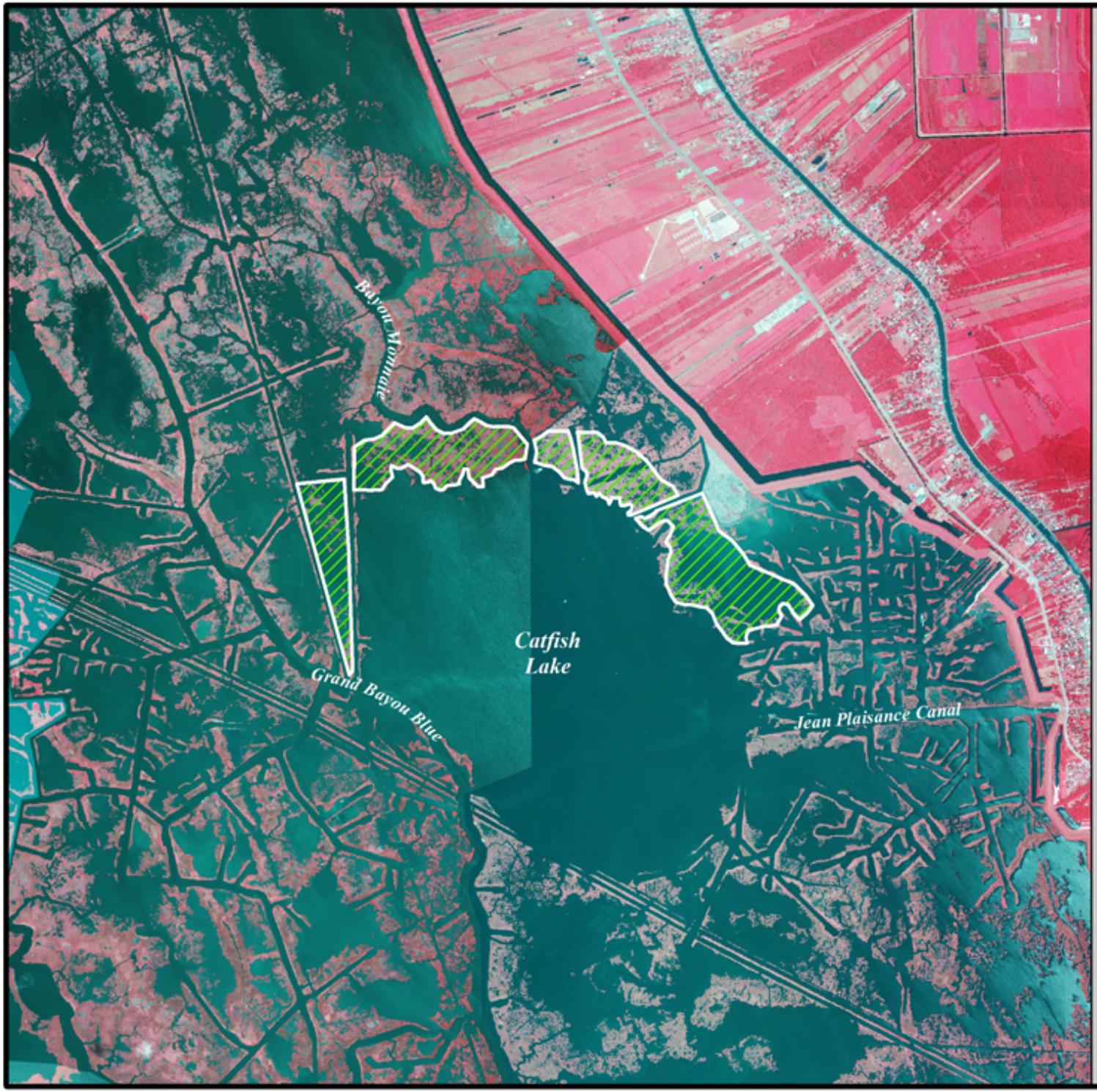
Progress to Date

This project is on Priority Project List 22.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Alexandria, LA
(318) 473-7756

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



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Marsh Creation *

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:
2010 NAIP Photography

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