rev. September 2010
Cost figures as of: January 2017

East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2005 **Project Area:** 362 acres
Approved Funds: $17.2 M **Total Est. Cost:** $17.7 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 169 acres
Status: Construction
Project Type: Marsh Creation
PPL #: 14

Location

The project is located in the Teche/Vermilion Basin at the east end of Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge southeast of Lake Sand in Iberia Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

Substantial areas of interior emergent marsh on Marsh Island have been converted to open water, primarily because of Hurricane Lili (2002). Areas targeted under this project are those with the greatest historical land loss and within close proximity to East Cote Blanche Bay.

Restoration Strategy

This project is designed to re-create brackish marsh habitat in the open water areas of the interior marsh primarily caused by hurricane damage. Based on 2007 aerial photography analysis, approximately 197 acres of marsh will be nourished and 165 acres of open water will be restored to interior emergent marsh habitat. The loss rates for the interior ponded areas are estimated to be reduced by 50 percent. This project provides a synergistic effect with CWPPRA's Marsh Island Hydrologic Restoration (TV-14), a project constructed in December 2001.

Aerial view of the east end of Marsh Island after commencement of construction activity.

Aerial view of the east end of Marsh Island where material dredged from East Cote Blanche Bay will be deposited to fill in open ponds and nourish marsh.

Progress to Date

The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved funding for engineering and design at their February 2005 meeting. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, working through the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, completed the engineering and design of the project and construction began in March 2010.

This project is on Priority Project List 14.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsors:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dallas, TX
(214) 665-7459

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

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

East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21)

Marsh Creation/Nourishment *

Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

0.1 0 0.1 0.2 Kilometers

0.1 0 0.1 0.2 Miles

Map Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:
2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: June 20, 2008
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2008-11-0289
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