



State of Louisiana

**Coastal Protection and Restoration
Authority of Louisiana (CPRA)**

**2012/2013 Annual Inspection
Report**

for

**CAMERON PRAIRIE REFUGE
PROTECTION PROJECT
(ME-09)**

State Project Number ME-09
Priority Project List 1

June 12, 2013
Cameron Parish

Prepared by:

Mel Guidry, Engineering Tech.
CPRA
Lafayette Field Office
635 Cajundome Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70596



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I. Introduction

The Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection project is located in north central Cameron Parish and includes 247 acres of highly organic freshwater wetlands located within the Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge. (See Appendix A)

The Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection Project was authorized by Section 303(a) of Title III Public Law 101-646, the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) enacted on November 29, 1990 as amended and approved on the first Priority Project List. The Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection Project has a twenty-year (20 year) CWPPRA project life, which began in August 1994.

II. Inspection Purpose and Procedures

The purpose of the annual inspection of the Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection Project (ME-09) is to evaluate the constructed project features to identify any deficiencies and prepare a report detailing the condition of project features and recommended corrective actions needed. Should it be determined that corrective actions are needed, CPRA shall provide, in the report, a detailed cost estimate for engineering, design, supervision, inspection, and construction contingencies, and an assessment of the urgency of such repairs (O&M Plan, 2003). The annual inspection report also contains a summary of maintenance projects, if any, which were completed since construction of the project features and an estimated projected budget for the upcoming three (3) years for operation, maintenance and rehabilitation. The three (3) year projected operation and maintenance budget is shown in Appendix C.

An inspection of the Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection Project (ME-09) was held on June 12, 2013 under sunny skies and warm temperatures. In attendance were Mel Guidry, Stan Aucoin, and Dion Broussard of CPRA, and Frank Chapman and Brandon Samson of NRCS. Representatives of USFWS were invited but were unable to attend. The annual inspection began at approximately 11:30 a.m. at the western end of the rock dike along the northern bank of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

The field inspection included a complete visual inspection of all features. Staff gauge readings were not available to be used to determine approximate water level and foreshore rock dike elevation. Field Inspection notes were completed in the field to record measurements and deficiencies (see Appendix C).

III. Project Description and History

Since the construction of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) between 1935 and 1940, wave erosion of the marsh adjacent to the GIWW has greatly increased due to the increased use of navigational vessels in the area. Wave erosion along the shoreline of the project area has caused most of the spoil banks to be depleted and allows for abnormal overtopping of the spoil banks to occur. In 1994, a 13,200-ft limestone breakwater was constructed 0-50 ft from (and parallel) to

the northern bank of the GIWW in 3-4 ft of water. The purpose of the breakwater was to prevent the encroachment of the GIWW into 247 acres of highly organic wetlands and to prevent the channel from overtopping and eroding the existing spoil bank.

The principal project features include:

- Approximately 13,200 linear feet of foreshore rock dike along the northern bank of the GIWW.

IV. Summary of Past Operation and Maintenance Projects

General Maintenance: Below is a summary of completed maintenance projects and operation tasks performed since August 1994, the construction completion date of the Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection Project (ME-09).

2001 – Warning Sign Addition (USACE) – The US Army Corps of Engineers added warning signs along the northern boundary of the project in August 2001 in response to complaints from the commercial traffic traveling along the GIWW. This is not a project feature to be maintained through CWPPRA.

Structure Operations: There are no operations associated with this project.

V. Inspection Results

Foreshore Rock Dike

The foreshore rock dike is in good condition. Two small sections were noted where the rock was lower than post construction conditions. Substantial vegetation was noted behind the foreshore rock dike. There is no need for maintenance at this time. The areas mentioned above were present during previous inspections and appear stable.

VI. Conclusions and Recommendations

Overall, the Cameron Prairie Refuge Protection Project is in excellent condition and functioning as designed. CWPPRA has made a decision to initiate closeout procedures for this project such that it has reached the end of the 20 year life.

Appendix A
Project Features Map



Appendix B
Three Year Budget Projection

CAMERON PRAIRIE REFUGE SP/ ME-09 / PPL 1
Three-Year Operations & Maintenance Budgets 07/01/2013 - 06/30/2016

<u>Project Manager</u> Pat Landry	<u>O & M Manager</u> Mel Guidry	<u>Federal Sponsor</u> USFWS	<u>Prepared By</u> Mel Guidry
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	2013/2014 (-19)	2014/2015 (-20)	
Maintenance Inspection	\$ 6,457.00	\$ 6,651.00	
Structure Operation			
State Administration		\$ -	\$ -
Federal Administration		\$ -	\$ -
Maintenance/Rehabilitation			

13/14 Description:

E&D	
Construction	
Construction Oversight	
Sub Total - Maint. And Rehab.	\$ -

14/15 Description:

E&D	\$ -
Construction	\$ -
Construction Oversight	\$ -
Sub Total - Maint. And Rehab.	\$ -

15/16 Description:

E&D	\$ -
Construction	\$ -
Construction Oversight	\$ -
Sub Total - Maint. And Rehab.	\$ -

	2013/2014 (-19)	2014/2015 (-20)	0
Total O&M Budgets	\$ 6,457.00	\$ 6,651.00	\$ -

O & M Budget (3 yr Total)	\$ 13,108.00
Unexpended O & M Budget	\$ 171,596.00
Remaining O & M Budget (Projected)	\$ 158,488.00

Appendix C
Field Inspection Form

Annual Inspection Report
 CAMERON PRAIRIE REFUGE PROTECTION PROJECT
 State Project No. ME-09

MAINTENANCE INSPECTION REPORT CHECK SHEET

Project No. / Name: ME-09 Cameron Prairie Refuge Shoreline Protection

Date of Inspection: June 13, 2013 Time: 11:30 a.m.

Structure No. 1

Inspector(s): Mel Guidry, Stan Aucoin, and Dion Broussard (CPRA)
 Frank Chapman, Brandon Samson (NRCS)

Structure Description: Foreshore Rock Dike on Northern Bank of GIWW

Water Level: N/A

Type of Inspection: Annual

Weather Conditions: Sunny and warm

Item	Condition	Physical Damage	Corrosion	Photo #	Observations and Remarks
Steel Bulkhead / Caps	N/A				
Steel Grating	N/A				
Stop Logs	N/A				
Hardware	N/A				
Timber Piles	N/A				
Timber Wales	N/A				
Galv. Pile Caps	N/A				
Cables	N/A				
Signage / Supports	Good				
Rip Rap (fill) (foreshore dike)	Good			1	One area of dike is low with displaced rock.
Earthen Embankment	N/A				

What are the conditions of the existing levees?
 Are there any noticeable breaches?
 Settlement of rock plugs and rock weirs?
 Position of stoplogs at the time of the inspection?
 Are there any signs of vandalism?