



Minerals Management Service

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News Release

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Minerals Management Service Approves \$21 Million Grant for Louisiana Barrier Island Restoration

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to receive Federal grant for East Grand Terre Island Restoration Project

NEW ORLEANS – The Minerals Management Service (MMS) has awarded a \$21 million grant to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) to create beach, dune, and marsh habitats on the East Grand Terre Island using dredged material.

“MMS is committed through the CIAP to helping States in their coastal restoration efforts,” said MMS Director Randall Luthi. “The East Grand Terre Island Restoration Project is an important effort toward restoring Louisiana’s barrier islands and MMS is proud to be a part of those efforts.”

The proposed project, located approximately 45 miles south of New Orleans, Louisiana in lower Plaquemines Parish north and east of Grand Isle, is designed to prevent breaching of East Grand Terre Island in the 20 years following construction. Approximately 3.3 million cubic yards of material will be dredged and used to create several types of habitats on the island including beach, dune and marsh.

The CIAP was created by the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Through the program, MMS will annually, from 2007-2010, disburse \$250 million in grants to six eligible Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas producing states – Louisiana, Alabama, Alaska, California, Mississippi, and Texas. The funding to Louisiana includes \$127.5 million for each of the fiscal years 2007 and 2008, totaling \$255 million. Nineteen Coastal Political Subdivisions (parishes) will share in the funding projects outlined in the state’s approved plan.

— MMS —

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