



Minerals Management Service

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News Release

Office of Public Affairs

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MMS Awards \$335,000 Grant for Habitat and Shoreline Protection

Goose Bayou Ridge will protect substantial Jefferson Parish freshwater marsh area

NEW ORLEANS – The Minerals Management Service (MMS) has awarded a grant for \$335,240.66 to Jefferson Parish in Louisiana through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), for the Goose Bayou Ridge and Shoreline Protection Project.

Funding from the grant will provide 8,000 feet of shoreline protection as well as 50 acres of wooded ridge habitat. The creation of the Goose Bayou Ridge will protect about 1,200 acres of vital freshwater marsh in the area. The project is located in Lafitte, Louisiana in southern Jefferson Parish, approximately 25 miles south-southwest of New Orleans.

“MMS is proud to partner with the Jefferson Parish in its coastal conservation and shoreline protection efforts,” said MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Director Lars Herbst. “MMS is committed through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program to support important restoration and protection projects like the Goose Bayou Ridge Creation.”

The CIAP was created by the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Through the program, MMS will provide \$250 million in grants annually, from 2007-2010, to six eligible Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas producing states – Louisiana, Alabama, Alaska, California, Mississippi, and Texas. The funding to Louisiana included \$127.5 million for each of the fiscal years 2007 and 2008, and \$120.9 million for each of the fiscal years 2009 and 2010. Nineteen Coastal Political Subdivisions (parishes) share in the funding of projects outlined in the state’s approved plan.

—MMS—

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