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Breaux Act

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

Technical Committee Meeting

December 10, 2003

New Orleans, Louisiana

BREAUX ACT

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

Technical Committee Meeting

Agenda

December 10, 2003, 9:30 a.m.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District (CEMVN)
Division Assembly Room - A
7400 Leake Ave.
New Orleans, LA

Documentation of Task Force and Technical Committee meetings may be found at:
http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/cwppra_mission.htm or
http://lacoast.gov/reports/program/index.asp

Tab Agenda Item

1. **Decision: PPL 13 Candidate Project Evaluation Results (Saia) 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** The Technical Committee will review the results of the PPL 13 candidate project evaluations. The committee will recommend projects to the CWPPRA Task Force for selection of the 13th Priority Project List.

2. **Decision: Funding Request for O&M, Project Specific Monitoring, and CRMS (Broussard/Raynie) 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.** LA Department of Natural Resources will request:
   a. O&M cost increases for projects on PPL 1-8, in the amount of $954,724.
   b. O&M funding beyond the first 3 years for projects on PPL9-12 in order to maintain a 3-year rolling amount of funds in the amount of $44,100.
   c. Project specific monitoring funding beyond the first 3-years for projects on PPL 9-12 in order to maintain a 3-year rolling amount of funding in the amount of $33,922.
   d. CRMS monitoring request in the amount of $3,101,357.

3. **Request: De-authorization of the West Point a la Hache Outfall Management Project (BA-04c) (Good) 10:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** The LA Department of Natural Resources is recommending that this project be de-authorized because project features would not achieve the project objective to reduce the rate of loss of emergent wetlands by decreasing salinity and water level variations. An exhaustive modeling effort revealed that project features would produce no noticeable influence on water levels, reduce most area salinities by only 2 parts per thousand or less, and increase the southeastern portion of the project area by as much as 1 part per thousand. The project is anticipated to have significantly high construction and long-term maintenance costs and a very high likelihood of not reducing the emergent wetland loss rate. The Technical Committee is asked to recommend that the Task Force initiate project de-authorization procedures.

4. **Decision: Request for Construction Authorization and Funding for the Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation (CS-28) Cycles 2 – 5 (Saia) 11:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the LA Department of Natural Resources are seeking construction approval and funding for the Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Cycles 2 – 5. The remaining cycles of the project will create 920 acres of marsh. The Technical Committee is asked to recommend construction authorization and funding approval in the amount of $13,862,705 to the Task Force.

5. **Decision: Request for Additional Phase I Funding for a Revised Design for the New Cut Dune / Marsh Restoration Project (TE-11a) (McQuiddy) 11:10 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.** The Environmental Protection Agency is requesting additional funding to revise the design of the New Cut / Marsh Restoration Project. The Technical Committee is asked to recommend to the Task Force additional Phase I funding approval of $182,041 above the previously approved 125% Phase I cost and additional funding of $55,021 to $235,021 for the estimated costs to cancel the construction contract.

6. **Decision: Request for Phase II Authorization for the Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project, Pelican Island and Pass La Mer to Chaland (BA-38) (Hartman) 11:20 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** The National Marine Fisheries Service and the LA Department of Natural Resources are seeking Phase II approval for the Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project, Pelican Island and Pass La Mer to Chaland. The project will benefit 322 acres over 20 years. Phase II costs for the project are $58,504,749. The Technical Committee is asked to recommend Phase II funding approval in the amount of $57,182,386 to the Task Force.

7. **Decision: Request for Phase II Authorization for the Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project (northeast only) (BA-27d) Phase 4 - Construction Unit 6 (Paul) 11:30 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.** The Natural Resources and Conservation Service and the LA Department of Natural Resources are seeking Phase II approval for the Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 - Construction Unit 6. The project will benefit 334 acres over 20 years. Phase II costs for the project are $26,591,834. The Technical Committee is asked to recommend Phase II funding approval in the amount of $22,054,530 to the Task Force.

8. **Decision: Revisions to the PPL 14 Planning Process (Saia) 11:40 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.** Additional revisions regarding the PPL14 process will be discussed. The discussion will be limited to the Environmental and Engineering Workgroups' recommendations regarding the application of the Coast 2050 Criteria, longevity/sustainability, and risk/uncertainty; and the recommendation to reduce the number of days for PPL14 RPT meetings.

9. **Decision: Clarification of the 30/95% Design Review Requirements (Monnerjahn/Roy) 11:50 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** The Technical Committee requested the Engineering and Environmental Workgroups meet to clarify the expectations for successful 30/95% design reviews. The workgroups will report on their findings, and will present suggested revisions to the SOP for approval of the Technical Committee.

10. **Report: Status of the Freshwater Bayou Bank Stabilization Project (TV11b, XTV-27) (Saia) 12:00 noon to 12:10 p.m.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will report on the status of the Freshwater Bayou Bank Stabilization Project as requested by the LA Department of Natural Resources.

11. **Additional Agenda Items (Saia)**

12. **Date of Upcoming Task Force Meeting**
The winter Task Force meeting will be held January 28, 2004 at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans, Louisiana. Supporting documents for the meeting should be submitted by COB January 12, 2004.

Dates of Future Program Meetings

January 28, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
March 17, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
April 14, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
July 14, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
August 18, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
September 15, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
October 13, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Baton Rouge
December 8, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
January 26, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans

PPL 13 Candidate Project Evaluation Results

CWPPRA
Priority Project List 13
Candidate Project Evaluation Results

Technical Committee Meeting

December 10, 2003

New Orleans, LA

Projects in Region 1

- Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation

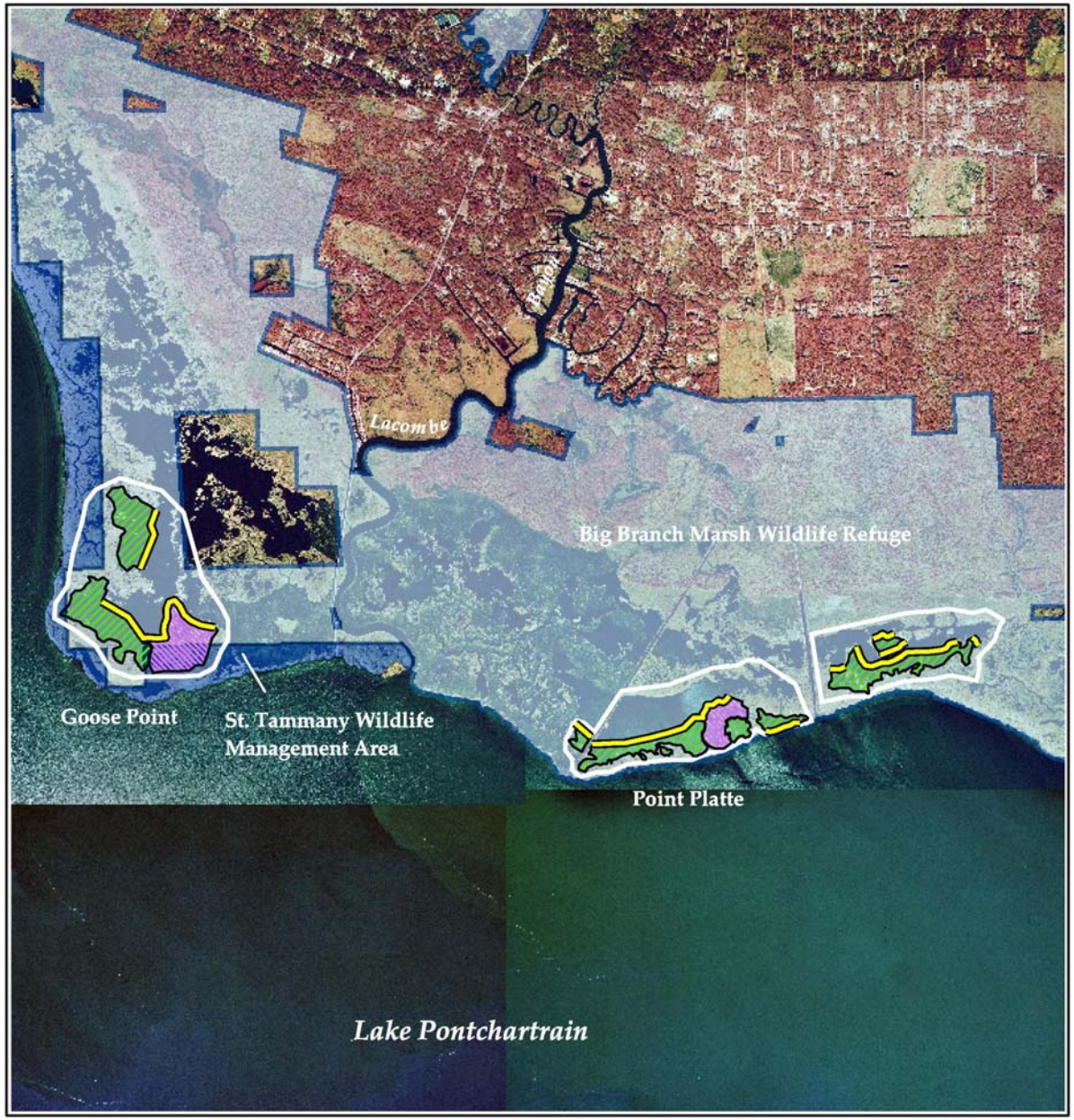
Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation

- Located in St. Tammany Parish, on the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain between Fountainbleu State Park and Hwy 11, within the Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge

- Hydraulically dredging (mining) material from the bottom of Lake Pontchartrain to restore/create marsh.

- Approximately 436 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.

- The estimated fully funded cost is $21,747,400.



PPL13 Candidate:
Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation

Containment Dike*

Marsh Creation*

Big Branch Marsh Wildlife Refuge

St. Tammany Wildlife Mangement Area

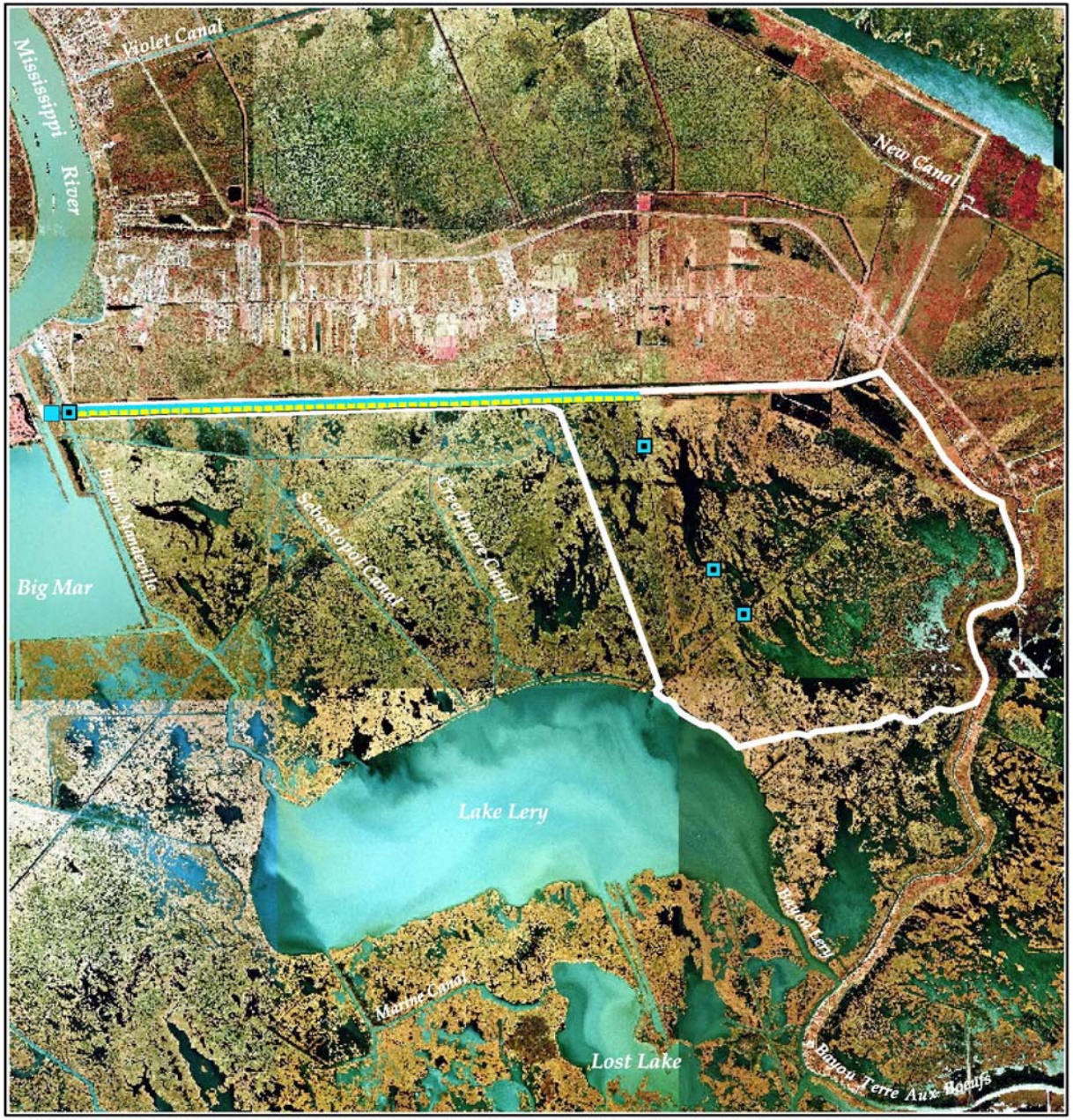
N

Projects in Region 2

- Caernarvon Outfall Management East
- Naomi Siphon Outfall Area Marsh Creation/Nourishment
- Spanish Pass Diversion

Caernarvon Outfall Management East

- Located in St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes, south of the Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion Structure.
- Construction of a 1,200 cfs pumping station to pump water from the Caernarvon Outfall Canal via a conveyance canal to the benefit area.
- Approximately 320 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.
- The estimated fully funded cost is $44,736,100.



PPL13 Project Candidate:
Caernarvon Outfall Management East

N

Naomi Siphon Outfall Area Marsh Creation/Nourishment

- Located in Plaquemines Parish, within the Naomi Siphon Outfall Area.
- Hydraulically dredging (mining) material from the Mississippi River to restore/create marsh.
- Approximately 135 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.
- The estimated fully funded cost is $9,192,000.

PPL13 Project Candidate:
Naomi Siphon Outfall Area
Marsh Creation/Nourishment

Dredge

Delivery System*

Marsh Creation*

Project Boundary

N

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior

Spanish Pass Diverison

- Located in Plaquemines Parish, south of Venice, LA.
- Construction of a 7,000 cfs diversion channel.
- Approximately 433 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.
- The estimated fully funded cost is $13,927,800.

PPL13 Project Candidate: Spanish Pass Diversion

Containment Levee*

Diversion Channel*

Project Boundary

N

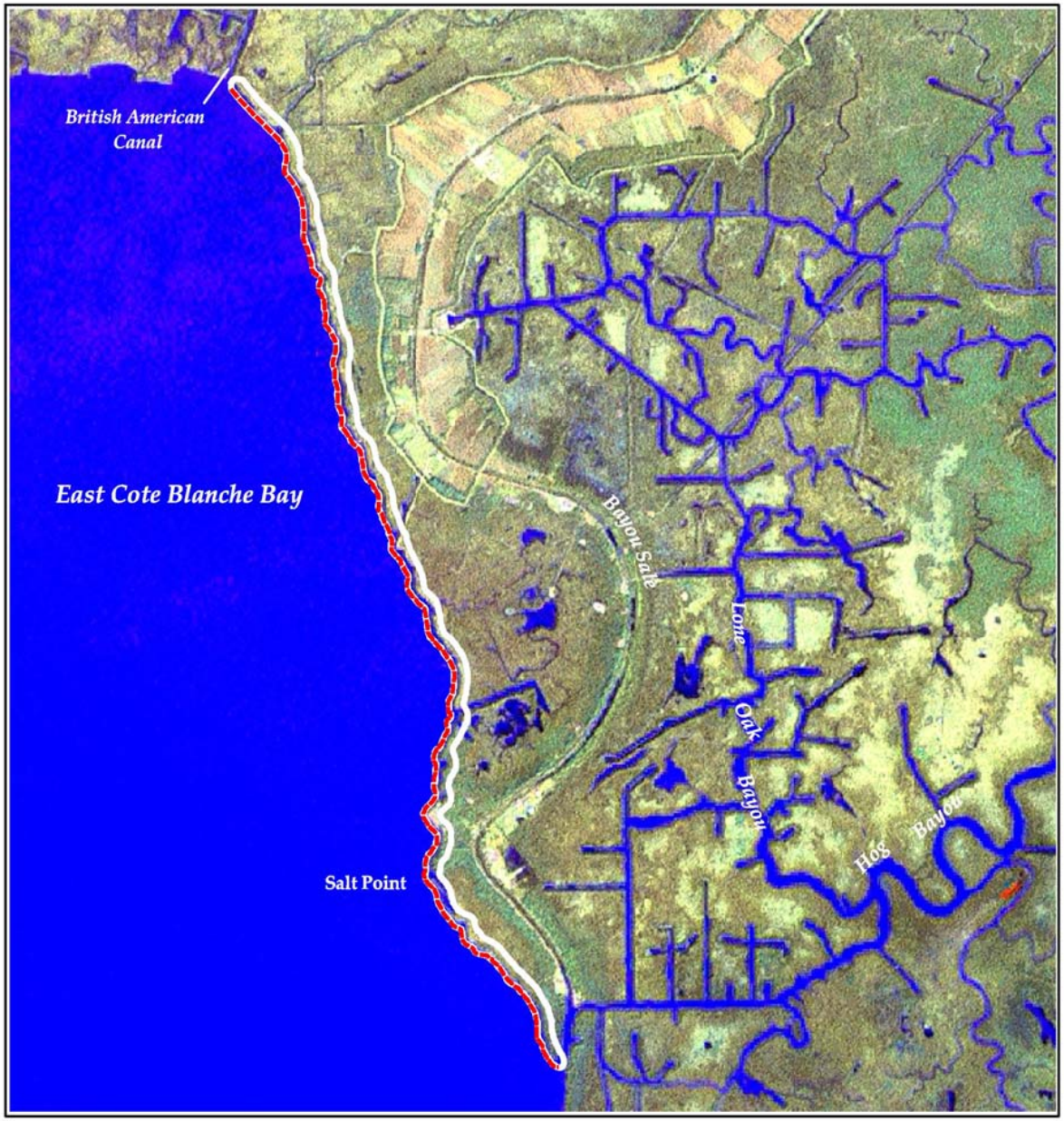
Map Produced By:

Projects in Region 3

- Bayou Sale Shoreline Protection
- Shark Island Shoreline Protection
- Whiskey Island Backbarrier Marsh Creation

Bayou Sale Shoreline Protection

- Located in St. Mary Parish, along the eastern shoreline of East Cote Blanche Bay from the British American Canal to the mouth of Bayou Sale
- Construction of approximately 35,775 LF of rock dike
- Approximately 329 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.
- The estimated fully funded cost is $32,103,000.



PPL13 Project Candidate:
Bayou Sale Shoreline Protection

Shoreline Protection*

N

Map Produced By

Shark Island Shoreline Protection

- Located in Iberia Parish, along the western shoreline of Shark Island
- Construction of approximately 21,805 LF of concrete sheet panel wall
- Approximately 178 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.
- The estimated fully funded cost is $19,246,100.

PPL13 Project Candidate:
Shark Island Shoreline Protection

Shoreline Protection*

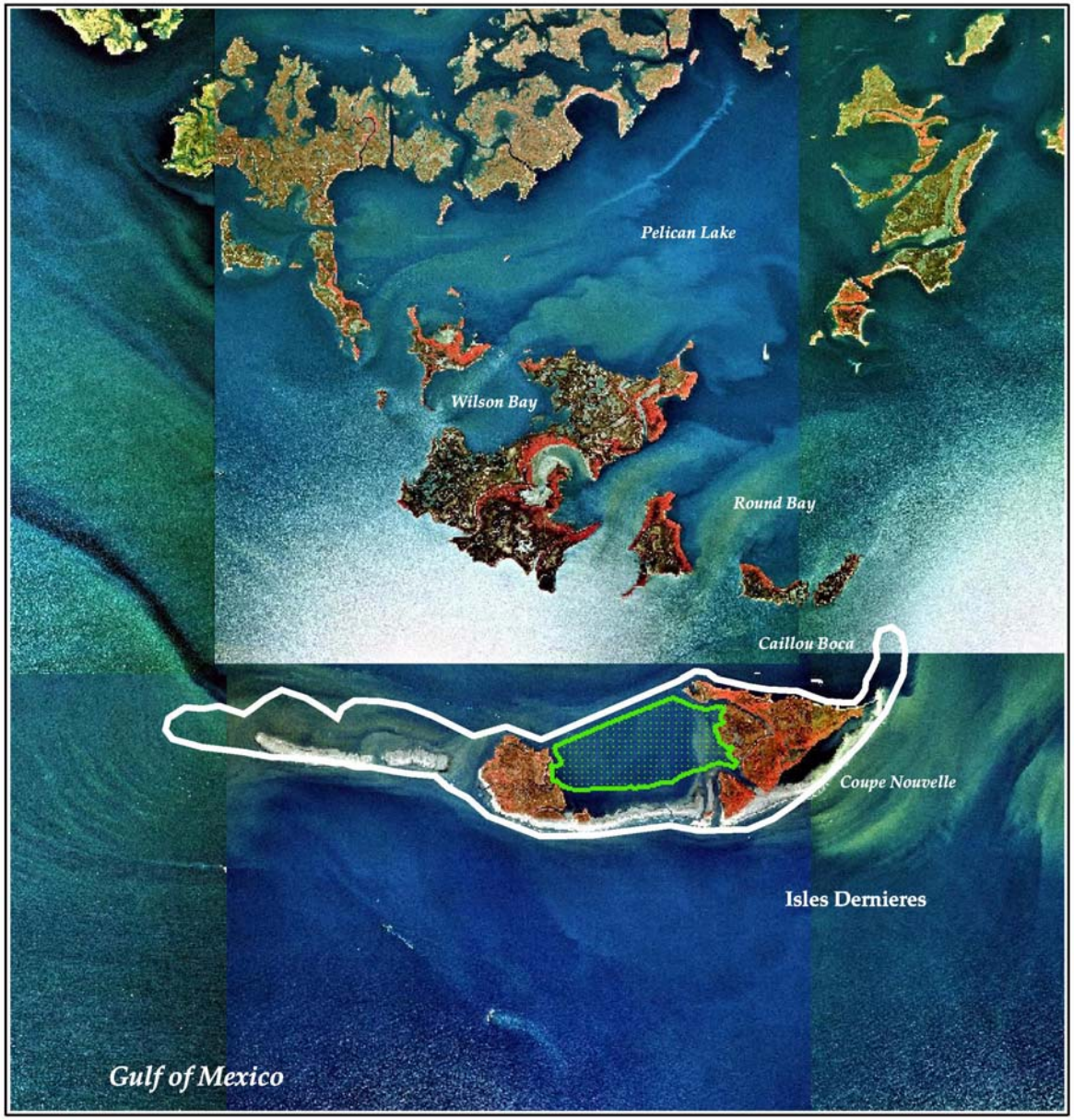
Project Boundary

N

Map Produced By:

Whiskey Island Backbarrier Marsh Creation

- Located in Terrebonne Parish, south of Pelto Marshes, in the Isles Dernieres Barrier Island Chain
- Hydraulically dredging (mining) material from the Gulf of Mexico to restore/create backbarrier marsh.
- Approximately 272 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.
- The estimated fully funded cost is $21,786,300.



PPL13 Project Candidate: Whiskey Island Backbarrier Marsh Creation

Marsh Creation*

Project Boundary

N

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior

Projects in Region 4

- Oyster Bayou Terracing

Oyster Bayou Terracing

- Located in Cameron Parish, 2.5 miles west of Cameron. The project is located between East Mud Lake, the Calcasieu Ship Channel, Highway 82, and the West Fork of the Calcasieu River.

- Construct approximately 124,967 LF of earthen terraces.

- Approximately 61 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years.

- The estimated fully funded cost is $4,209,900.

PPL13 Project Candidate: Oyster Bayou Terracing

Terracing*

Project Boundary

N

Map Produced By:

Proposed Demonstration Projects

- Shoreline Protection Foundation Improvements Demonstration Project
- Flowable Fill Demonstration Project
- Interior Shoreline Protection Demonstration Project
- Soil Salinity Remediation Demonstration Project
- Hackberry Bay Oyster Reef Demonstration Project

Shoreline Protection Foundation Improvements Demonstration Project

- Goals: To reduce the 20-yr project life cycle costs of shoreline protection projects.
- Solutions: Use a sand foundation beneath rock dikes in various test sections in order to demonstrate alternative means to achieve bearing capacity and consolidation settlement design tolerances.
- Cost: The estimated fully funded cost is $1,335,200.

Flowable Fill Demonstration Project

- Goals: To test a technique whereby rock structures have increased integral strength and earthen terraces are protected from erosion on the windward edge of the project.

- Solutions: Injecting/applying a flowable, fill material consisting of Portland cement, sand, water, re-cycled fly-ash, and a plasticizer unto rock structures and to the erosive face of newly constructed and existing earthen terraces.

- Cost: The estimated fully funded cost is $1,789,900.

Interior Shoreline Protection Demonstration Project

- Goals: Demonstrate the effectiveness of fiberglass sheet pile to stop erosion and re-establishing lake shoreline in shallow water (2 feet or less) interior lakes.

- Solutions: Install approximately 2,640 linear feet of fiberglass sheet pile along the shoreline following the –2.0' contour, with a top elevation of +3.0 (NAVD-88).

- Cost: The estimated fully funded cost is $1,121,900.

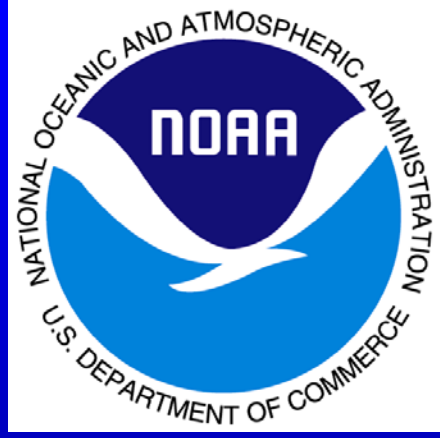
Soil Salinity Remediation Demonstration Project

- Goals: To improve survivability of emergent vegetation and to increase marsh stability.
- Solutions: Treating dredge material within the disposal sites with calcium whereby improving the permeability of soils to air and water by displacement of sodium ions from the rooting zone.
- Cost: The estimated fully funded cost is $1,840,700.

Hackberry Bay Oyster Reef Demonstration Project

- Goals: To protect shorelines by creating a living, self sustainable oyster reef.
- Solutions: Construction of oyster reefs that would resemble staggered breakwaters.
- Cost: The estimated fully funded cost is $1,687,500.

USGS
science for a changing world



NRCS
Natural Resources
Conservation Service

U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

CWPPRA, PPL 13 Candidate Prioritization Scores

Dated: November 5, 2003

Project Name	Project Number	PPL	Lead Agency	Project Type	(2) Total Acres Benefited	(1) Current Estimate	Cost Per Acre ($/acre)	Prioritization Scores for each Criteria & Corresponding Weight								**Total Weighted Score 100%**
								Cost Effective 20%	Area of Need 15%	Implement-ability 15%	Certainty of Benefits 10%	Sustainability 10%	HGM Riverine Input 10%	HGM Sediment Input 10%	HGM Structure and Function 10%	
Spanish Pass Diversion	Candidate	13	COE	SD	433	$13,927,800	$32,166	7.5	5	4	9	10	10	10	0	**67.50**
Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation	Candidate	13	FWS	MC	436	$21,747,400	$49,879	5	4	10	7	10	0	0	5	**53.00**
Whiskey Island Backbarrier Marsh Creation	Candidate	13	EPA	BI	272	$21,786,300	$80,097	1	10	7	7	1	0	5	10	**50.50**
Caernarvon Outfall Management East	Candidate	13	COE	FD	320	$44,736,100	$139,800	1	4	7	5	10	7	5	0	**45.50**
Naomi Siphon Outfall Area Marsh Creation/Nourishment	Candidate	13	EPA	MC	135	$9,192,000	$68,089	2.5	5	7	7	10	0	5	0	**45.00**
Shark Island Shoreline Protection	Candidate	13	NMFS	SP	178	$19,246,100	$108,124	1	3	10	8	10	0	0	5	**44.50**
Oyster Bayou Terracing	Candidate	13	NMFS	TE	61	$4,209,900	$69,015	2.5	5	10	8	8	0	0	0	**43.50**
Bayou Sale Ridge Protection	Candidate	13	NRCS	SP	329	$32,103,000	$97,578	1	3	10	7.7	8	0	0	5	**42.20**

Priority Project List Number 13
Candidate Projects

Public Meetings -- November 2003

Abbeville New Orleans

Table of Contents

The 13th Priority List Planning Process

- Citizens nominated 17 projects across the Louisiana coastal zone at Regional Planning Team (RPT) meetings held in February 2003.

- At the direction of the CWPPRA Task Force, the Technical Committee selected 8 candidate projects for detailed evaluation on March 26, 2003.

- Interagency project site visits were conducted with the participation of interested landowners and local government representatives during the late spring and early summer.

- Members of the Environmental and Engineering work groups met to review project features, aerial videotapes, and field notes to determine project boundaries.

- Environmental Work Group conducted Wetland Value Assessments (WVA) on each candidate project to estimate environmental benefits.

- Engineering Work Group reviewed designs and cost estimates for each project.

- The work groups met jointly to prioritize the candidate projects.

- Economics Work Group projected fully funded costs to construct, monitor and maintain each candidate project.

- Hold public meetings to present project evaluation results.

- On December 10, 2003, the Technical Committee will review project evaluation results and develop a recommendation to the Task Force for project selection.

- The CWPPRA Task Force will select the 13th Priority Project List on January 28, 2004.

Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation

Coast 2050 Strategies
Coastwide: Dedicated Dredging to Create, Restore, or Protect Wetlands; Maintenance of Gulf, Bay and Lake Shoreline; Vegetative Planting.
Mapping Unit: Maintain Shoreline Integrity; Vegetative Plantings.

Project Location
Region 1, St. Tammany Parish, North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain between Fountainbleu State Park and Hwy 11, within the Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge.

Problem
Interior ponding and, to a lesser extent shoreline erosion, are the major causes of wetland loss in the project area. Loss rates were highest during the period from 1956 to 1978. Those high loss rates were associated with hydrologic alterations with allowed saltwater to penetrate the fresher marshes. During the transition to a more brackish plant community, large ponds were formed. A narrow strip of land separates those ponds from Lake Pontchartrain. Although the shoreline erosion rates are relatively low, the shoreline is already breached in several areas and marsh loss in the interior ponds would be expected to increase if the shoreline failed.

Goals
The goal of this project is to recreate marsh habitat in the open water behind the shoreline. This will maintain the lake-rim function along this section of the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain by preventing the formation of breaches into the interior marsh.

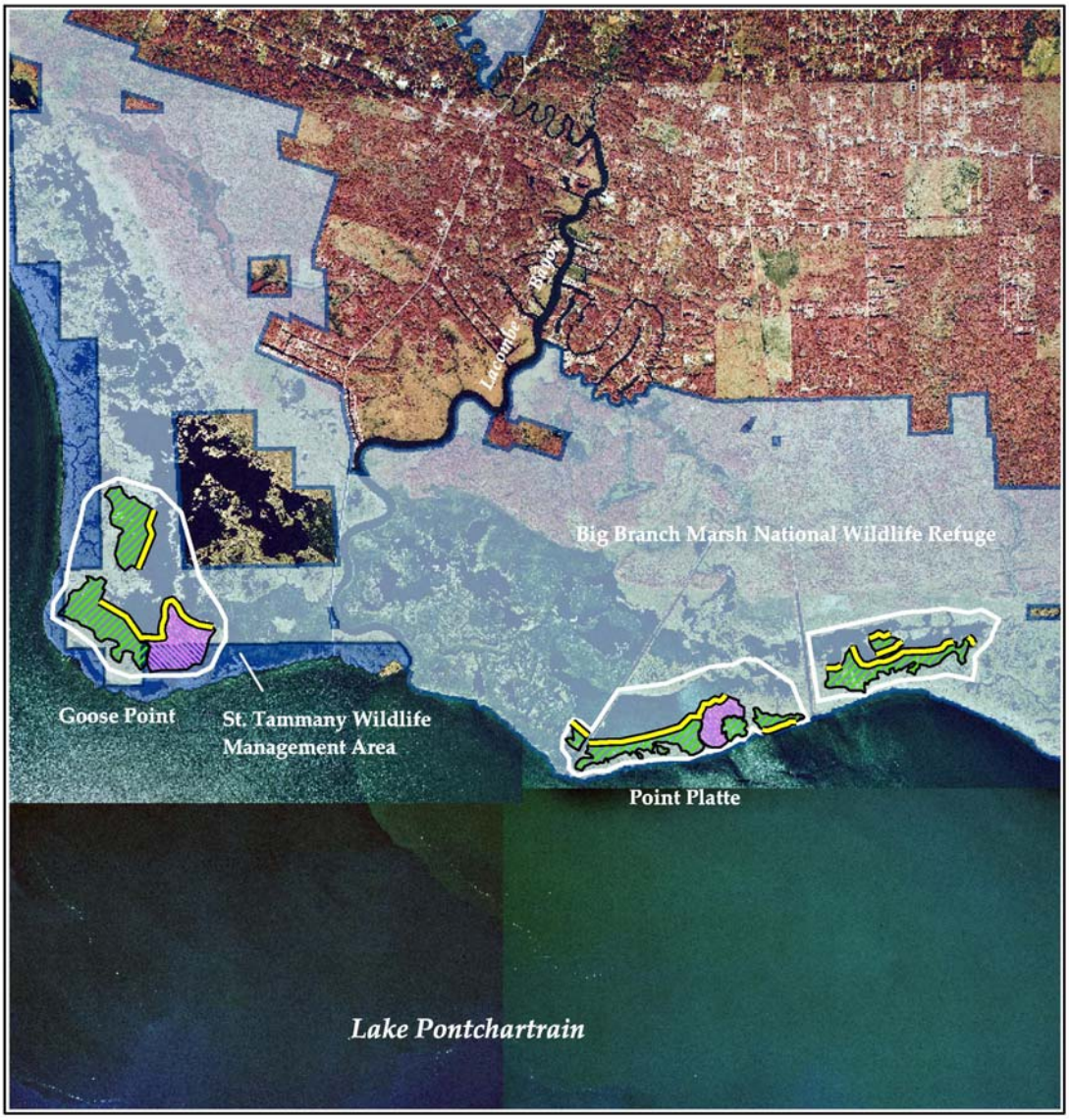
Proposed Solution
Sediment would be dredged from Lake Pontchartrain and placed in cells within the ponds and planted with vegetation to create approximately 437 acres of marsh. In addition, 114 acres of degraded marsh would be nourished with dredged material. Marsh would be created to widen the shoreline so that the ponds would not be breached during the course of normal shoreline retreat.

Project Benefits
The project would benefit about 1,384 acres of fresh marsh and open water. Approximately 436 acres of marsh would be created/protected over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs
The estimated total fully funded cost is $21,747,400.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability
There is a low degree of risk associated with this project because current loss rates are relatively low. The project should continue providing benefits 20 – 30 years after construction because the created marsh would be lost slowly.

Preparer of Fact Sheet
Martha Segura, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (337) 291-3110, martha_segura@fws.gov



PPL13 Project Candidate:
Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation

Containment Dike*
Marsh Creation*
Marsh Nourishment*
Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge
St. Tammany Wildlife Mangement Area
Project Boundary

** denotes proposed structures/features*

1 0.5 0 1 Kilometers

1 0.5 0 1 Miles

N

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

Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

USGS science for a changing world

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2004-11-0002
Map Date: October 02, 2003

Caernarvon Outfall Management (East)

Coast 2050 Strategy

- #5 "Operate existing diversions and manage their outfall"

Project Location

Region Two, St. Bernard Parish, southwest of Verret, La.

Problem

The historic Bayou Terre aux Boeufs / Bayou La Loutre distributary channel connection to the Mississippi River has been severed for over 100 years and is no longer available to deliver fluvial water to the benefit area (Roberts and Stone, MRSNFR report). The benefit area is located a few miles east of Caernarvon, La., and has been significantly affected due to a lack of river water, salinity intrusion and other factors. The benefit area is in the upper most reach of the sub-basin and was historically the least saline wetland of the sub-basin. This area now receives negligible fluvial water input. The Caernarvon Diversion structure has excess capacity during certain times of the year and is being underutilized. Even under higher discharge, freshwater from the existing Caernarvon Diversion structure is unlikely to significantly impact the target area.

Goals

To re-establish historic hydrology of northern reaches of Bayou Terre aux Boeufs; To deliver nutrients to areas of significant land loss or impoundment to promote marsh growth; To utilize the discharge capacity of the Caernarvon Diversion structure resulting in a net increase in discharge from the Caernarvon Diversion structure; To deliver freshwater to the historic fresher habitats of the sub-basin; To re-establish historic northeast-southwest orientation of habitat boundaries of Breton Basin; To enhance a natural levee and ridge habitat along Bayou Terre aux Boeufs

Proposed Solution

A 1,200 cfs pumping station would be constructed to discharge water from the Caernarvon Diversion Canal to a conveyance canal that parallels the existing borrow canal for the Lake Verret Levee without blocking navigation on Caernarvon Canal.

Project Benefits

The project would benefit approximately 6,839 acres of fresh marsh and open water. Approximately 320 acres of marsh would be created/protected over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs

The estimated total fully funded cost is $44,736,100.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability

There is a moderate degree of risk associated with this project because of the uncertainty of the exact quantity of marsh that will be created/protected. The project should continue providing benefits 20 – 30 years after construction.

Preparers of Fact Sheet

John Lopez, Corps of Engineers, (504) 862-1945
Chris Monnerjahn, Corps of Engineers, (504) 862-2415

PPL13 Project Candidate: Caernarvon Outfall Management East

Plugs*
Conveyance Canal*
Pump Station*
Containment Dikes*
Project Boundary
* denotes proposed structures/features

1 0.5 0 1 Kilometers
1 0.5 0 1 Miles

N

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

Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-1893
Map Date: September 23, 2003

Naomi Siphon Outfall Area Marsh Creation/Nourishment

Coast 2050 Strategy
Coast wide: Dedicated dredging for wetland creation. Regional: Enrich existing diversions with sediment.

Project Location
The project is located in Coast 2050 Region 2, Barataria, Basin, Plaquemines Parish, at Naomi, LA, along the western bank of the Mississippi River.

Problem
The wetland area west of Naomi was converting rapidly to open water prior to construction of the Naomi Siphon, due to an accretion deficit, in turn caused by the elimination of input of inorganic sediment from overbank flooding of the Mississippi River. Other causes include reduction of sediment input due to altered hydrology caused by spoil banks along oil and gas pipeline and access canals. Reduction of flows through the wetlands due to semi-impoundment by the spoil banks may also have increased water levels and reduced flows through the marshes, possibly reducing plant health and productivity. Finally, saltwater intrusion along with increased hydraulic flow may have resulted in some conversion of fresh marsh to open water. The Naomi Siphon appears to be having positive environmental effects on the marsh. However, a large pond system on the northern side of the outfall area remains as shallow open water and does not appear to be filling in. Aerial photographs suggest that this area receives benefits from the siphon however. The proximity to the Mississippi River is an excellent opportunity to utilize sediment from the river to restore and create wetlands in this area. Finally, the Naomi Siphon area represents one of a few existing opportunities to test combining marsh creation with freshwater redistribution (diversion).

Goals
1) Restore 135 acres of fresh-intermediate marsh in the northern portion of the Naomi Siphon Outfall Area, using Mississippi River sediment; 2) Nourish 87 acres of existing fresh-intermediate marsh in a band surrounding the large open water area to be filled for marsh creation; 3) Increase sustainability of created and nourished marsh by locating the project close to the Naomi Siphon.

Proposed Solution
A dedicated dredge in the Mississippi River will pump sediment through a 2.5 mi pipeline to create approximately 135 acres of marsh in a large pond in the northern portion of the Naomi Siphon Project Area, and nourish 87 acres of marsh in a band around the large pond, with up to 6 inches of sediment. After settlement, newly-placed sediment at marsh elevation in the large pond will be planted with 2 species of marsh plants. The pipeline will go under the highway and the railroad.

Project Benefits
The project would benefit about 222 ac of fresh-intermediate marsh and open water. Approximately 137 acres of marsh would be created/protected over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs
The estimated total fully funded cost is $9,192,000.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability
There is a low degree of risk because marsh creation has been practiced for some time with considerable success, and this marsh will be sustained by the beneficial effects of the Naomi Siphon. The project should continue providing benefits 30 – 40 years after construction because marsh loss rates are very low due to the effects of the Naomi Siphon.

Preparers of Fact Sheet
Ken Teague, EPA, (214) 665-6687, Brad Crawford, EPA, (214) 665-7255, Patricia Taylor, EPA, (214) 665-6403

Louisiana

Study Area

PPL13 Project Candidate:
Naomi Siphon Outfall Area
Marsh Creation/Nourishment

Dredge
Delivery System*
Marsh Creation*
Project Boundary

** denotes proposed structures/features*

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Miles

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Kilometers

N

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

Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-1896
Map Date: September 24, 2003

Spanish Pass Diversion

Coast 2050 Strategy

- Regional #8 - Construct most effective small diversions into marsh with outfall management.

Project Location

Region 2, Mississippi River Delta Basin, Plaquemines Parish, The project is located near Venice, Louisiana.

Problem

Marsh in the project area is not receiving sediment and is becoming open water. The principle hydrologic changes in the area are due to the dredging of canals for the Venice Oil Field, roads and other infrastructure. This has caused Spanish and Red Pass to be cut-off from the influence of the Mississippi River thus starving the area of freshwater sediments and nutrients. These processes have resulted in the loss of more than 3,900 acres of fresh marsh and swamp.

Goals

The primary goal is to gain emergent marsh to the maximum extent practicable by diverting river water and sediments into an otherwise open water environment.

Proposed Solution

The project involves constructing a 7,000 cfs diversion channel from Grand Pass (a distributary of the Mississippi River) into the large open water receiving area shown on the project map. Outfall management measures will be evaluated and incorporated to increase benefits to aquatic habitats in the system.

Project Features Include:

1. 1,300 lf of diversion channel with containment levees
2. A bridge at Tidewater Road

Project Benefits

The project would benefit approximately 1,580 acres of fresh marsh and open water. Approximately 433 acres of marsh would be created/protected over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs

The estimated total fully funded cost is $13,927,800.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability

There is a moderate degree of risk associated with this project because of the uncertainty of the exact quantity of marsh that will be created. The project should continue providing benefits 30 – 40 years after construction because it is an open channel diversion and has adequate O&M funds budgeted.

Preparer of Fact Sheet

Chris Monnerjahn, Corps of Engineers, (504) 862-2415

PPL13 Project Candidate:
Spanish Pass Diversion

Containment Levee*
Diversion Channel*
Project Boundary

**denotes proposed structures/features*

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Kilometers
0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Miles

N

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

Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-1894
Map Date: September 23, 2003

Bayou Sale Shoreline Protection

Coast 2050 Strategies

- Protect bay shorelines
- Protection of ridge function
- Beneficial use of dredge material

Project Location

Region 3, Teche/Vermilion Basin, St. Mary Parish, along the eastern shoreline of East Cote Blanche Bay from British American Canal to the mouth of Bayou Sale.

Problem

Eroding shoreline at an estimated rate of 13.5 ft/yr caused by the open water fetch and resulting wave energy from East Cote Blanche Bay. The retreating shoreline has resulted in a substantial loss of live oak forest, emergent wetlands and critical habitat used by a multitude of fish and wildlife species including the endangered black bear.

Goals

The goal of this project is to reduce and/or reverse shoreline erosion and create marsh between the breakwater and existing shoreline.

Proposed Solution

Construction of a foreshore rock dike parallel to and approximately 150 feet out from the existing eastern shoreline of East Cote Blanche Bay. The linear footage of shoreline is approximately 35,776 feet. The rock dike will be tied into the banks of all substantial channels. Smaller channels and sloughs will have provisions for adequate drainage and aquatic organism access via openings through the dredge material and gaps in the dike. It is anticipated that approximately 123 acres of marsh will be created with the fill material from dredging of an access channel to accommodate construction equipment.

Project Benefits

The project would benefit 312 acres of marsh and 58 acres of bottomland hardwoods. Approximately 329 acres of marsh and bottomland hardwoods would be created and or protected over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs

The estimated total fully funded cost is $32,103,000.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability

There is a low degree of risks associated with this project because rock dikes are an effective technique for stopping shoreline erosion. The project should continue providing benefits 30 – 40 years after construction because adequate O&M funds are budgeted.

Sponsoring Agency and Contacts

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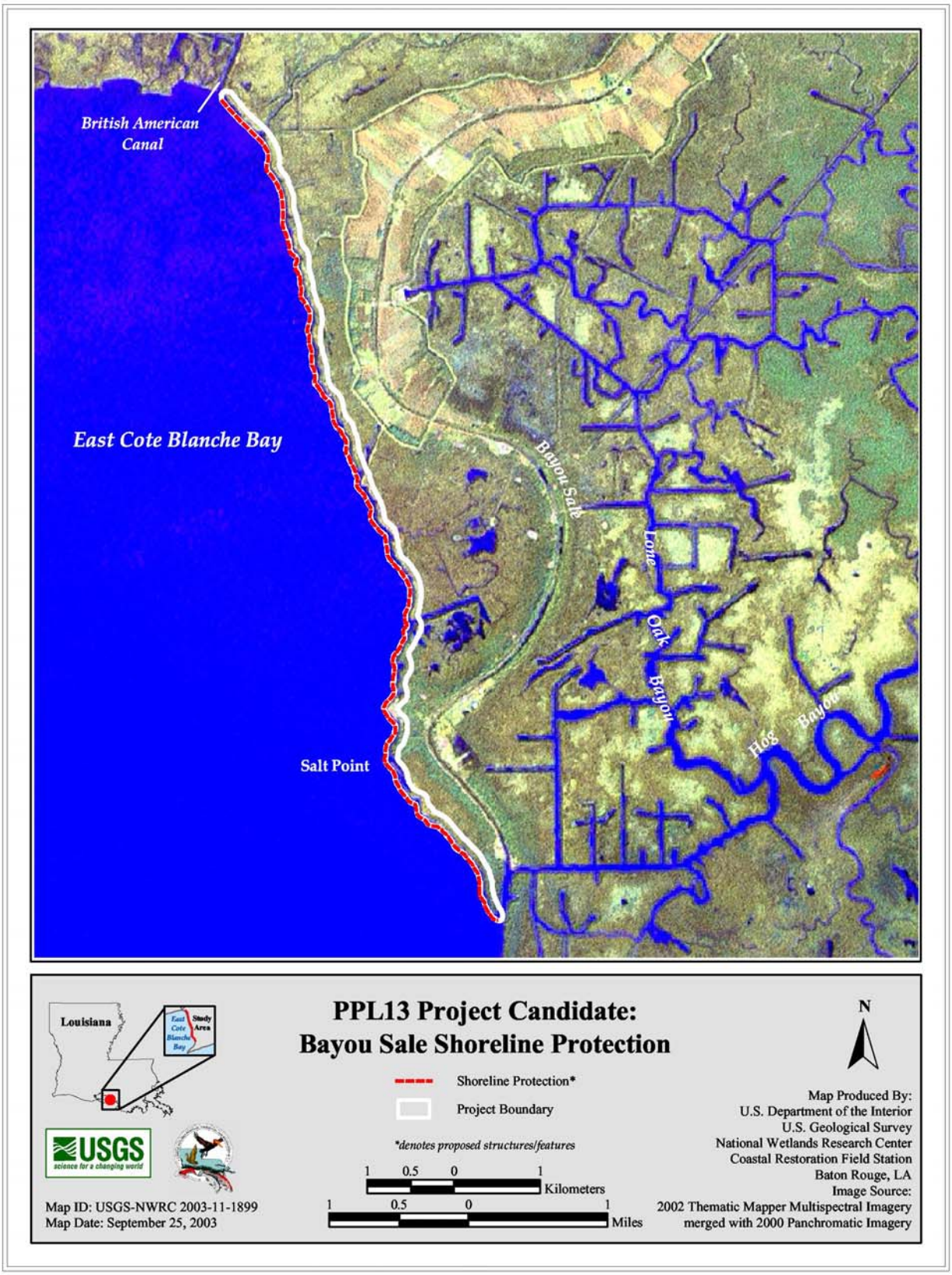
Loland Broussard, NRCS, (337) 291-3069, **loland.broussard@la.usda.gov**


British American Canal
East Cote Blanche Bay
Salt Point
Bayou Sale
Lone Oak Bayou
Hog Bayou
Louisiana
Study Area
East Cote Blanche Bay
USGS
science for a changing world
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-1899
Map Date: September 25, 2003
PPL13 Project Candidate:
Bayou Sale Shoreline Protection
Shoreline Protection*
Project Boundary
*denotes proposed structures/features
1 0.5 0 1
Kilometers
1 0.5 0 1
Miles
N
Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, LA
Image Source:
2002 Thematic Mapper Multispectral Imagery
merged with 2000 Panchromatic Imagery

Shark Island Shoreline Protection

Coast 2050 Strategy
Regional Strategy #11; Maintain shoreline integrity and stabilize critical areas of Vermilion, E. and W. Cote Blanche, Atchafalaya , Caillou, Terrebonne, and Timbalier Bay systems including the gulf shoreline.

Project Location
Region 3, Teche-Vermilion Basin, Iberia Parish. The project boundary includes 40 feet of open water along the western shoreline of Shark Island (21,805 ft) and 20 years of projected erosion from Pelican Point down to Blue Point.

Problem
Analysis of georectified 1978 color infrared photography to 1998 DOQQs determined an average shoreline erosion rate of 23.7 feet/year. According to the Coast 2050 report, subsidence plays a minor role in interior wetland loss at a rate of only 1.1 to 2.0 feet/century (0.132 in. to 0.24 in.) Sea level rise calculated for the Vermilion/Cote Blanche Bay Complex is 0.05 ft/yr from 1942 to 1983 (USACE 2001).

Goals
Stabilize the western shoreline of Shark Island by eliminating or reducing shoreline erosion.

Proposed Solution
Due to poor soil stability and load bearing, the proposed project feature consists of constructing 21,805 feet of concrete sheetpile wall (with approximately 500 feet of tie-in) approximately 40 feet from shore. If authorized, all cost effective techniques would be evaluated as alternatives based on site specific geotechnical soils analysis. There would be a minimum of 25 feet gaps every 1,000 feet. Additionally, there would be a 50 feet wide gap at the water crossing just south of Pelican Point, a 50 feet wide gap at the oil and gas canal, and 2, 100 feet wide gaps at the tidal inlet located approximately half way between the oil and gas canal and Blue Point. Each gap would have an offset section of sheetpile installed with 20 feet of overlap on both ends to prevent waves from passing past the structure. Rock scour pads would be installed along the base of all structures and in the gaps. Existing sediment in the gaps would be dredged (mucked out) prior to installation of the rock scour pad so as to not decrease the water depth through the gaps.

Project Benefits
The project would protect 178 acres of existing intermediate marsh from conversion to open water with erosion over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs
The estimated total fully funded cost is $19,246,100.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability
There is a moderate degree of risk and uncertainty associated with this project because of poor soil stability. The project should continue providing benefits 30 – 40 years after construction because of design features and moderate Operations and Maintenance funds are budgeted.

Preparer of Fact Sheet
Patrick Williams, National Marine Fisheries Service, (225)389-0508

PPL13 Project Candidate: Shark Island Shoreline Protection

N

Shoreline Protection*
Project Boundary

*denotes proposed structures/features

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Kilometers

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 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

Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-1898
Map Date: September 25, 2003

Whiskey Island Back Barrier Marsh Creation

Coast 2050 Strategy
Regional Strategy #14: Restore and maintain the barrier islands and gulf shoreline such as Isle Dernieres, Timbalier barrier island chains, Marsh Island, Point au Fer, and Cheniere Au Tigre (including back barrier beaches).

Project Location
The proposed project would be in Region 3, Terrebonne Basin, Terrebonne Parish, Lake Pelto Mapping Unit. The project would be located north of the previous restoration project, TE-27.

Problem
Gulfside and bayside erosion combined has resulted in Whiskey Island (and the entire Isles Dernieres) narrowing as the two shorelines migrate toward each other, resulting in a 68% decrease in average width for the Isles Dernieres (McBride and Byrnes 1997. Within 100 years, the entire subaerial portion of the of the Isles Dernieres barrier island system is projected to disappear except small land fragments associated with the western end of Whiskey Island and the eastern end of East Island. However, if the area change extrapolation method is used, the Isles Dernieres are projected to disappear much earlier, in 2017 (McBride and Byrnes 1997). Other predictions suggest that without restoration, the island would become subaqueous sand shoals between 2007 (McBride et al. 1991) and 2019 (Penland et al. 1988). In June, 2000 a CWPPRA restoration project (TE-27) was completed here, including dredging/placement (February, 1998), vegetative planting (July, 1998 and June, 1999), sand fencing (June 2000).

Goals
1) To create approximately 300 acres of back barrier, intertidal marsh; 2) To create a minimum of six 1-acre tidal ponds and 10,000 ft of tidal creeks; 3) To increase the longevity of the previously-restored and natural portions of the island by increasing the island width; 4) To maintain the longevity of the island by conserving sand volume and elevation by increasing the island width.

Proposed Solution
Approximately 300 acres of intertidal, back barrier marsh would be created by semi-confined disposal and placement of dredged material to +2 ft NAVD 88 (! 0.5ft). A minimum of six 1-acre tidal ponds and 10,000 ft of tidal creeks would be constructed. The area would be planted with smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora)*. The boundary of the disposal area generally would follow the –3.5' contour. Because the project only involves marsh creation, high quality sand is not needed. This will allow sediment to be mined from a sediment source nearer the island than Ship Shoal, for example. A large area of silty sand lies directly to the south of the island, at a distance of three or four kilometers at a depth of two to four meters.

Project Benefits
The project would benefit about 1,038 acres of barrier island habitat. Approximately 272 acres of intertidal saltmarsh would be created/protected over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs
The estimated total fully funded cost is $21,786,300.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability
There is a high degree of risk associated with this project because barrier islands have high loss rates due to their role in absorbing/dissipating energy from the Gulf. The project should continue providing benefits 20 – 30 years after construction.

Preparers of Fact Sheet
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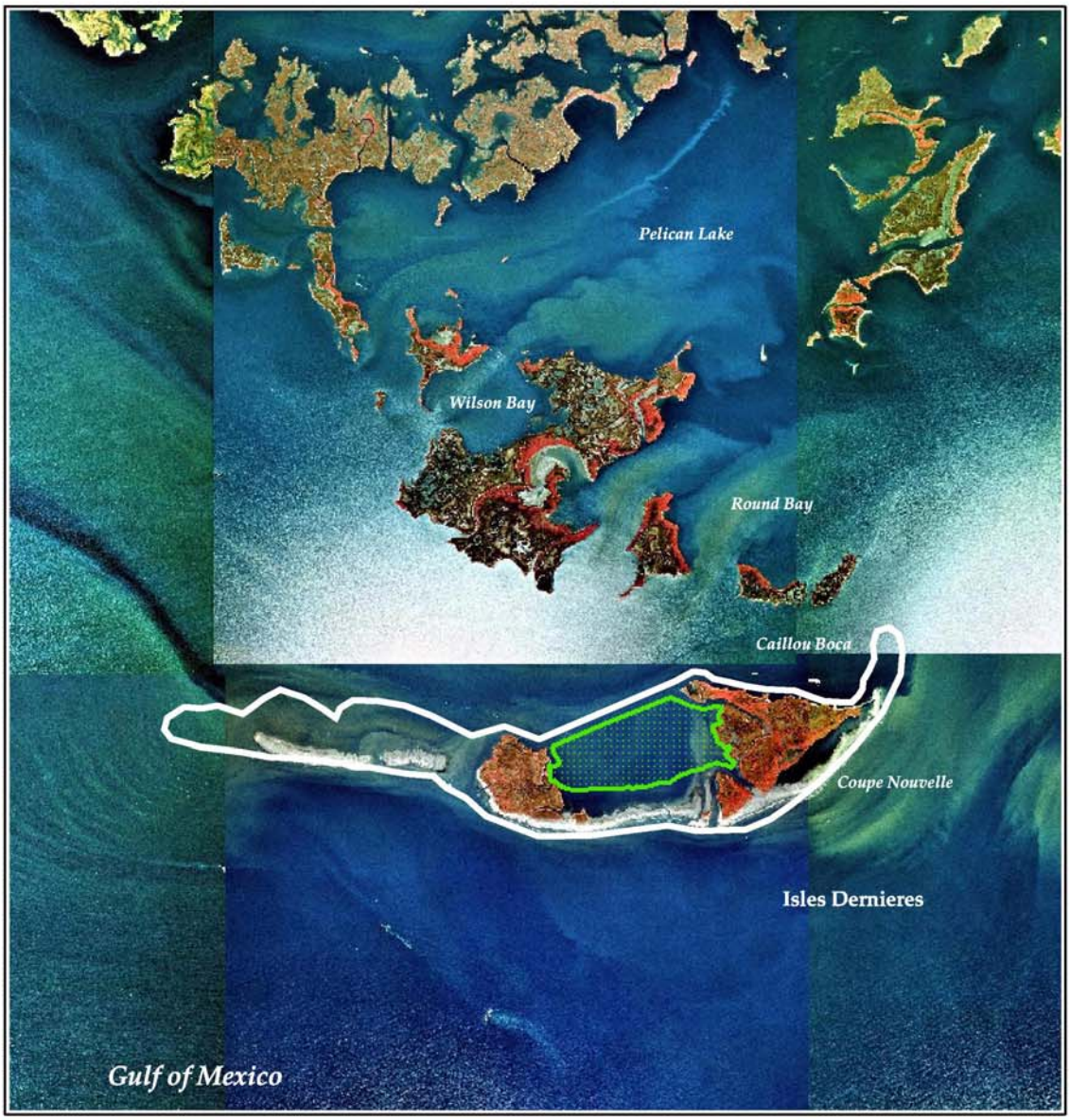

Louisiana

Study Area

Gulf of Mexico

USGS science for a changing world

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2004-11-0003
Map Date: October 02, 2004

PPL13 Project Candidate: Whiskey Island Backbarrier Marsh Creation

Marsh Creation*

Project Boundary

** denotes proposed structures/features*

0.50.25 0 0.5
Kilometers

0.5 0.25 0 0.5
Miles

N

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

Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Oyster Bayou Terracing

Coast 2050 Strategy
Coast-wide Strategies: Terracing; Vegetative Planting.

Project Location
Region 4; Calcasieu-Sabine Basin; Cameron Parish; 2.5 miles west of Cameron. The project is located between East Mud Lake, the Calcasieu Ship Channel, Highway 82, and the West Fork of the Calcasieu River.

Problem
Saltwater intrusion and drought stress are contributing to interior marsh breakup. Evidence of fragmentation and brown marsh like syndrome was observed during 2003, interagency inspections. As ponds have coalesced, water bodies have grown which may be increasing marsh breakup from wave action. Based on USGS and analysis of 1978 to 2000 data and Corps of Engineers data from 1974 to 1990, landloss ranges from 4.8 acres to 18.8 acres for the project area. Subsidence rates for the mapping unit are 0 to 1 ft per century (i.e., maximum of 0.12"/yr or 2.4" in 20 years) (Coast 2050).

Goals
Create approximately 55.5 acres of brackish marsh (after settlement) and protect some existing marsh from erosion.

Proposed Solution
Construct approximately 124,967 ft of earthen terraces. Terraces would have a 10 ft crown and 1:4 side slopes and a 4 ft fill height to settle primarily to intertidal elevations. Layout of the terrace field would include 50 ft gaps every 500 ft. Terrace orientation and layout would be re-evaluated through coordiantion with the landowners during Phase I. Terraces would be planted with four rows of *Spartina alterniflora* cv. Vermilion (smooth cordgrass) plugs. Two rows would be installed at the mean water line on 5-ft centers. The other 2 rows would be installed on 10 ft offset centers at the crest of the terrace side slope at the crown.
In year 15, funding is included to reconstruct up to 25% of the terraces which is similar to a 1 foot lift for all terraces. Also, funding for up to 50% replacement of the original plants has been included.

Project Benefits
The project would result in a net of 61 acres of brackish marsh from the terraces and protection of adjacent marsh over the 20-year project life.

Construction Costs
The estimated total fully funded cost is $4,209,900.

Risk/Uncertainty and Longevity/Sustainability
There is a low degree of risk and uncertainty associated with this project based on the shallow waters and relatively firm soils. The project should continue providing benefits 20 – 30 years after construction.

Preparer of Fact Sheet
Patrick Williams, National Marine Fisheries Service, (225) 389-0508

PPL13 Project Candidate:
Oyster Bayou Terracing

Terracing*

Project Boundary

**denotes proposed structures/features*

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Kilometers

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Miles

N

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, LA
Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

USGS
science for a changing world

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-1897
Map Date: September 24, 2003

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

Section 303(a) of the CWPPRA states that in the development of Priority Project List, ". . . [should include] due allowance for small-scale projects necessary to **demonstrate the use of new techniques or materials for coastal wetlands restoration**."

The CWPPRA Task Force on April 6, 1993, stated that: "The Task Force directs the Technical Committee to limit spending on demonstration projects to $2,000,000 annually. The Task Force will entertain exceptions to this guidance for projects that the Technical Committee determines merit special consideration. The Task Force waives the cap on monitoring cost for demonstration projects."

What constitutes a demonstration project:

1. Demonstration projects contain technology that has not been fully developed for routine application in coastal Louisiana or in certain regions of the coastal zone.

2. Demonstration projects contain technology which can be transferred to other areas of the coastal zone.

3. Demonstration projects are unique and are not duplicative in nature.

PPL 13 Demonstration Project Candidates

The following proposed demonstration projects were evaluated for the 13th Priority Project List.

- Shoreline Protection Foundation Improvements Demonstration Project
- Flowable Fill Demonstration Project
- Interior Shoreline Protection Demonstration Project
- Soil Salinity Remediation Demonstration Project
- Hackberry Bay Oyster Reef Demonstration Project

Shoreline Protection Foundation Improvements Demonstration Project

Coast 2050 Strategy: n/a

Project Location: n/a

Problem: Poor soil conditions in coastal Louisiana limit the effectiveness of shoreline protection dikes because of high rates of subsidence. High subsidence rates require frequent and expensive project maintenance, lowering overall project cost effectiveness.

Goals: The goal of the project is to bring into the realm of feasibility shoreline protection where it is currently challenged in terms of cost effectiveness over a 20-yr project life cycle by investigating a ground improvement method to reduce subsidence.

Proposed Solution: The objective is to develop foundation improvements using a sand foundation beneath rock dikes for application in coastal Louisiana to demonstrate alternative means to achieve bearing capacity and consolidation settlement design tolerances in ways that lessen 20-year project life cycle costs, as compared to traditional approaches.

This demonstration project is proposed to "piggy back" on a funded shoreline protection project, that would be selected by the Task Force, which uses a traditionally designed and constructed rock dike section. The potential test region should be in an environment where soil conditions are very poor; the wave climate is harsh; and wetland loss is high.

This demonstration project proposes seven sections, which would each be approximately 300-ft-long. The first section is a reference section to the ground improvement test sections, having an unimproved foundation. The remaining six sections would consist of a sand foundation involving two construction methods. In the first construction case, containing 3 sections, the sand will displace the soft material near the surface. In the second construction case, containing 3 sections, the soft material near the surface will be dredged prior to sand placement. All of these sections will be instrumented with settlement plates, inclinometers, and extensometers to determine the effectiveness of these foundation improvements.

Project Benefits: From the results of this proposed demonstration project, a more effective and economical method can be established in the design and construction of shoreline protection. Therefore, shoreline protection could be provided in areas not currently protected due to project cost limitations thus protecting precious wetlands by preventing coastal erosion and aiding in marsh creation.

Project Costs: The estimated total fully funded cost is $1,335,200.

Sponsoring Agency and Contact Persons:
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Julie L. Oliphant, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (504) 862-2035,
Julie.l.oliphant@mvn02.usace.army.mil
Gretchen S. Hammond, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (504) 862-1659,
Gretchen.s.Hammond@mvn02.usace.army.mil

Flowable Fill Demonstration Project

Coast 2050 Strategy: n/a

Project Location: n/a

Problem: Several post constructed projects suffer from high maintenance due to rock slippage caused by storms, incessant wave energy or high tides coupled with high wake energy which shear off the top-most part of rock structures. A rock structure which has been bonded together will also be resistant to vandalism. Fresh spoil used to construct the seaward face of terraces or other earthen structures are very vulnerable to erosion until such time that protective vegetation on the terrace is established. Both of these scenarios sometimes call for the affected works to be repaired or have intensive maintenance soon after initial construction.

Goals: To test a technique whereby rock structures have increased integral strength without adding to overall structure weight, and earthen works are afforded protection from erosion on the windward edge of the project in the period immediately following initial and post construction.

Proposed Solution: For rock structures, slippage can be controlled by injecting/applying a flowable, fill material consisting of Portland cement, sand, water, re-cycled fly-ash, and a plasticizer. This material will bond rocks together and reduce the incidence of re-working or adding new material to the structure due to rock loss, an example of which is occurring at the structure along Freshwater Bayou. This material has an approximate weight of 2,615 lbs./cu yd and an approximate strength of 1,500 pounds per square inch (psi). Flowable Fill could eliminate or reduce maintenance on existing and future projects. This Flowable Fill can also be applied to the erosive face of freshly constructed and existing earthen works to provide protection against wave energy. This material will set-up and cure in underwater applications.

Project Benefits: Eliminate or minimize post construction (re-working) or yearly maintenance of structures built for the control of shoreline erosion. Control marsh, bay, lake, gulf shoreline and navigation bank erosion. A layer of flowable fill on the erosive face of earthen terraces will extend the life of the structure allowing for increased sedimentation within protected areas, which, over time which may allow the formation of emergent marsh vegetation.
The application of flowable fill over existing or new rock type structures will assist in bonding the structure together resulting in less rock slippage and eventual loss which diminishes the effectiveness of the structures designed use and results in increased costs during the operation/maintenance phase of the project.
Successful demonstration of this project may also have ramifications for inclusion on new projects, especially rock structures whereby planned or additional structure height may be achieved with flowable fill instead of rock material. The substitution of flowable fill, in place of rock, could possibly lower project costs or increase structure coverage.

Project Costs: The estimated total fully funded cost is $1,789,900.

Sponsoring Agency and Contact Person:
Bart Devillier, NRCS, 337-893-5664, bart.devillier@la.usda.gov.

Interior Shoreline Protection Demonstration Project

Coast 2050 Strategy: n/a

Project Location: n/a

Problem: Interior marsh loss has lead to the coalescence of many small ponds into a few large ponds. At Lake Fearman, wind generated waves from the lake will soon coalesce into a small, unnamed lake along the southwest shoreline. At Rockefeller Refuge, wind generated wave energy is now focused on the containment levee of the north east corner of Unit 6. Poor load bearing capacity of the soils in both cases eliminates traditional rock shoreline stabilization techniques.

Goals: Demonstrate the effectiveness of fiberglass sheet pile to stop erosion and re-establishing lake shoreline in shallow water (2 feet or less) interior lakes.

Proposed Solution: Install approximately 2,640 linear feet of fiberglass sheet pile along the shoreline following the –2.0 contour, with a top elevation of +3.0 (NAVD-88). Organism and material linkages will be maintained through a 10" by 30" window within the sheet pile every 100 feet for 1,320 feet of the 2,640 foot long system.

Project Benefits: Stop shoreline erosion.

Project Costs: The estimated total fully funded cost is $1,121,900.

Sponsoring Agency and Contact Person:
John D. Foret, NOAA Fisheries, John.Foret@noaa.gov

Soil Salinity Remediation Demonstration Project

Coast 2050 Strategy: n/a

Project Location: n/a

Problem: The CWPPRA program along the Louisiana coast is increasingly going to the use of dredge material for marsh creation. In some cases, the dredge material comes as a result of maintenance dredging of a ship channel or river bottom in which soil salinity is significantly higher than salinities in the receiving area. Project planners are left with the choice of either planting the area with a plant species with higher salt tolerances (which may not be the dominant plant type in the area) or wait until enough dilution takes place, via rainfall, to plant with a target species for the receiving area. Reclamation of salt (NaCl) burdened soils in place (in-situ) using calcium has been practiced for many decades in terrestrial environments, but the most utilized form of calcium has been the use of gypsum (hydrated calcium sulfate) which is a slow process at best and involves extensive logistical and application expense as gypsum is a solid, powdery calcium salt. The objective of this project is to lower sodium ion concentrations to a point equivalent to a target habitat type of the surrounding marsh.

Goals: 1) Test the efficiency of a calcium soil amendment to lower sodium concentrations such that the indigenous plant community can thrive on dredge spoils that originate from a higher salinity regime; and, 2) Improve the permeability of soils to air and water by displacement of sodium ions from the rooting zone, thus improving survivability of emergent vegetation volunteers and increasing marsh stability.

Proposed Solution: A 45 acre test area is to be partitioned into 9 discrete, 5 acre areas by the construction of earthen levees with a finished elevation of + 0.3 meters above settled grade and 1.5 meter finished crown width. The acquisition, transportation and deposition of the spoils are not considered herein with regard to estimating total costs associated with the testing of this soil treatment method as this demonstration project will be associated with a scheduled maintenance dredging project. The spoils will be deposited is such a manner as to create a consolidated elevation of not greater than 6 inches above surrounding marsh.
This proposal calls for the application at 2 treatment rates of salt remediating, calcium soil amendment and the establishing of a triplicate of "control" impoundments. There is to be no discharge of water from the impoundments after the cells are filled with spoils thus allowing for downward percolation and evaporation of water accumulated during spoils deposition. The treatment methodology is to involve the pumping of surface water through a plastic pipe, distribution system using diesel engine powered pumps while injecting known rates of soil amendment. After the soil treatments have been made, vegetative plantings with appropriate target species to match the surrounding dominant marsh type will be made. Planting layout calls for 5' OC spacing (2,400 plants), diagonally across each cell forming an "x" in each test cell.

Project Benefits: Improving survivability of emergent vegetation.

Project Costs: The estimated total fully funded cost is $1,840,700.

Sponsoring Agency and Contact Person:
John D. Foret, NOAA Fisheries, John.Foret@noaa.gov

Hackberry Bay Oyster Reef Demonstration Project

Coast 2050 Strategy: n/a

Project Location: n/a

Problem: The head of coastal bays are experiencing shoreline erosion and enlargement of passes resulting in increased saltwater intrusion, increased subsidence, reduced sediment accretion, and conversion to open water of the interior marshes. Barataria Bay has coalesced into Hackberry Bay, with only a few remnant islands separating the bays. Evidence of the magnitude of the problem is recognized in the restoration strategies of the Coast 2050 Regions 1, 2, and 3 for the protection of shoreline integrity at the head of bays. A current CWPPRA Demonstration project, Terrebonne Bay Shoreline Protection Demonstration Project, is addressing the same goals as this proposed project. However, the Terrebonne Bay Project is only focusing on structural applications. This project will focus on reef development.

Goals: The goal of the project would be the protection of shorelines by creating a living, self sustainable oyster reef. Reefs can be constructed with low profiled aerial features that would provide wave attenuation by absorbing wave energy and protecting fringing marshes. Increases in essential fish habitat would be accomplished, as well as increases in water quality.

Proposed Solution: This project would attempt to construct oyster reefs. Reef orientation would resemble staggered breakwaters. Reef design would incorporate Geotubes or other suitable and cost effective alternatives as the nucleus or core with oyster shells as cover. Adequate engineering analysis and solutions are to be derived to properly place the oyster shells. The reef would be shaped to accommodate wave run-up and provide optimum habitat conducive to spat attachment and oyster reef development. Seed oysters may be applied to expedite reef development. Possibilities of planting SAV's on the landward side will be explored. This will also provide stability to the reef and enhance the fish habitat.

Project Benefits: Possible general benefits include restoration of area-wide hydrology, valuable reef habitat, improved water quality, and protection of fringing marsh areas. Additional benefits include improvements in the salinity gradient which will make the areas more suitable for oyster cultivation as well as the creation of ecologically valuable reef habitat for crabs, fish and other aquatic species (Comprehensive Oyster Management Plan, Chesapeake Bay, 2002). Non-mechanical, recreational public harvesting of oysters, suitable to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries concerns, will also be explored. Benefits of harvesting may result in promoting eco-tourism as well as enhancing oyster reef growth.

Project Costs: The estimated total fully funded cost is $1,687,500.

Sponsoring Agency and Contact Person:
Ronny Paille, USFWS, 337-291-3117, Ronald_paille@fws.gov

PPL 13 Candidate Project Evaluation Matrix

Project Name	Parish	Project Area	Average Annual Habitat Unit (AAHU)	Net Acres	Prioritization Score	Longevity & Sustainability	Risk & Uncertainty	Total Fully Funded Cost	Fully-Funded Phase I Cost	Fully-Funded Phase II Cost	Average Annual Cost (AAC)	Cost Effectiveness (AAC/AAHU)	Cost Effectiveness (Cost/Net Acre)
Spanish Pass Diversion	Plaquemines	1,580	79	433	67.5	30 - 40 years	Moderate	$13,927,800	$1,137,344	$12,790,456	$1,113,200	$14,091	$32,166
Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation	St. Tammany	1,384	297	436	53	30 - 40 years	Low	$21,747,400	$1,930,596	$19,816,804	$2,029,400	$6,833	$49,879
Whiskey Island Backbarrier Marsh Creation	Terrebonne	1,038	292	272	50.5	20 - 30 years	High	$21,786,300	$2,293,893	$19,492,407	$1,910,000	$6,541	$80,097
Oyster Bayou Terracing	Cameron	1,417	37	61	43.5	20 - 30 years	Low	$4,209,900	$590,012	$3,619,888	$291,000	$7,865	$69,015
Bayou Sale Ridge Protection	St. Mary	370	153	329	42.2	30 - 40 years	Low	$32,103,000	$2,254,912	$29,848,088	$2,397,200	$15,671	$97,578
Shark Island Shoreline Protection	Iberia	248	54	178	44.5	30 - 40 years	Moderate	$19,246,100	$1,764,788	$17,481,312	$1,539,800	$28,515	$108,124
Naomi Siphon Outfall Area Marsh Creation/ Nourishment	Plaquemines	222	77	135	45	30 - 40 years	Low	$9,192,000	$1,195,676	$7,996,324	$803,500	$10,435	$68,089
Caernarvon Outfall Management East	St. Bernard / Plaquemines	6,839	103	320	45.5	20 - 30 years	Moderate	$44,736,100	$3,462,404	$41,273,696	$3,296,000	$32,000	$139,800

PPL 13 Demonstration Project Evaluation Matrix

Demonstration Project Name	Objectives	Lead Agency	Total Fully Funded Cost	P1 Innovativeness	P2 Applicability or Transferability	P3 Potential Cost Effectiveness	P4 Potential Env Benefits	P5 Recognized Need for Info	P6 Potential for Technological Advancement	Total Score
Shoreline Protection Foundation Improvements Demo	Shoreline Protection	USACE	$1,335,200	10	10	10	7	7	7	51
Flowable Fill Demo	Shoreline Protection	NRCS	$1,789,900	10	7	3	7	7	7	41
Interior Shoreline Protection Demo	Shoreline Protection	NMFS	$1,121,900	3	7	10	7	3	3	33
Soil Salinity Remediation Demo	Marsh Creation	NMFS	$1,840,700	10	3	3	7	3	7	33
Hackberry Bay Oyster Reef Demo	Shoreline Protection	USFWS	$1,687,500	7	3	3	7	7	3	30

Notes:
1. The following parameters constitute a demonstration project and were evaluated:
(P1) Innovativeness - Demonstration projects contain technology that has not been fully developed for routine application in coastal Louisiana or in certain regions of the coastal zone.
(P2) Applicability or Transferability - Demonstration projects contain technology which can be transferred to other areas of the coastal zone.
(P3) Potential Cost Effectiveness - An evaluation of the project must be made to compare the demonstration project's method of achieving the project objectives vs. a traditional method of accomplishing the project objective.
(P4) Potential Environmental Benefits - No Wetland Value Assessment (WVA) will be performed on candidate demonstration projects. Instead, the project will be evaluated on the pros and cons of the demonstration vs. traditional or other methods.
(P5) Recognized Need for the Information to be Acquired - Demonstration Projects should be unique and are not duplicative in nature. They do not need to be in the Restoration Plan, but must contain technology that has not been fully developed for routine application in coastal Louisiana and can be transferred to other parts of the coastal zone.
(P6) Potential for Technological Advancement - Demonstration project must clearly show what objectives will be gained from project and a evaluation must be made of the demonstration project's method for achieving these objectives compared to a traditional project's methods of achieving the same objectives.
2. The "Beneficial Use of Dredge Sediments Demonstration Project" was not included because it does not test/evaluate an innovative/untested coastal restoration technique/technology which could be compared to the traditional technique/technology.

Funding Request for O&M, Project Specific Monitoring, and CRMS

a. O&M cost increases for projects on PPL 1-8, in the amount of $954,724.
b. O&M funding beyond the first 3 years for projects on PPL9-12 in order to maintain a 3-year rolling amount of funds in the amount of $44,100.
c. Project specific monitoring funding beyond the first 3-years for projects on PPL 9-12 in order to maintain a 3-year rolling amount of funding in the amount of $33,922.
d. CRMS monitoring request in the amount of $3,101,357.

State of Louisiana

M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

JACK C. CALDWELL
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

December 02, 2003

MEMORANDUM

To: CWPPRA Technical Committee

From: M. Garrett Broussard
LDNR Operation and Maintenance Engineering Manager

RE: Request for Additional Operation and Maintenance Funds for Freshwater Bayou Wetland Project (ME-04) and GIWW Bank Stabilization (Perry Ridge to Texas)(CS-30)

Please find the following information related to requests for additional Operation and Maintenance funds, for the following Projects:

PPL 1-8 CWPPRA PROJECTS:

1) Freshwater Bayou Wetland Project (ME-04) PPL-2

Requested O and M budget for 2004 through 2014 $ 954,724
The above number reflects annual inspection/reports and 1 maintenance event in 2004 and 2017. (See attached chart).

PPL 8-12 CWPPRA PROJECTS

1) GIWW Bank Stabilization (Perry Ridge to Texas) CS-30 PPL IX

Requested O and M budget for 2004 through 2006 $44,100
The above number reflects annual inspections/reports and 1 structural assessment survey in 2005. (See attached chart)

cc: Chris Knotts CED Administrator
Bill Good CRD Administrator

Coastal Engineering Division
P. O. Box 44027 • Capitol Station • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 • Telephone (225) 342-7308 • Fax (225) 342-9417
An Equal Opportunity Employer

FRESHWATER BAYOU WETLAND PROJECT (ME-04) PPL-2

FEDERAL AGENCY: NRCS
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED: MARCH 25, 1995

ORIGINAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) BUDGET: $752,457
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) EXPENDED TO DATE: $760434
EXISTING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET: $(-)7,977
REQUESTED O & M BUDGET FOR 2004 TO 2014: 954,724

PROJECTED O&M EXPENDITURES 2004 TO 2014

	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Year 15	Year 16	Year 17	Year 18	Year 19	Year 20
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Annual Inspection	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454
Survey Services	$16,616							$13,880			
Engineering Design Services	$25,000							$20,820			
Construction Inspection	$16,616							$13,880			
Mobilization/Demobilization	$50,000							$50,000			
Rock Dike Repair/Maintenance	$365,445							$297,000			
Administration (Federal)	$7,308							$6,940			
Administration (State)	$7,308							$6,940			
TOTAL	$492,747	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454	$413,914	$4,454	$4,454	$4,454
TOTAL BUDGET 2004-2014	**$954,724**										

GIWW BANK STABILIZATION (PERRY RIDGE TO TEXAS) CS-30 PPL- IX

FEDERAL AGENCY: NRCS
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED: DECEMBER 2001

ORIGINAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) BUDGET: $ 15,570
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) EXPENDED TO DATE: $ 1,650
REMAINING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET: $13,920
REQUESTED OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET FOR 2004 TO 2006: $30,180

PROJECTED O&M EXPENDITURES 2004 - 2005

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5						
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006						
Annual Inspection			$4,700	$4,700	$4,700						
Structural Assessment Survey				$30,000							
TOTAL			$4,700	$34,700	$4,700						
TOTAL BUDGET 2004 - 2006	**$44,100**										

Budget Request for CWPPRA Monitoring
CWPPRA Technical Committee Meeting
December 10, 2003

Out-year funding

Project-specific (PPL 9-11)

The following PPL 9-11 cash-flow projects will continue to have project-specific monitoring activities and will require addition out-year funding.

$33,922 ME-19 Grand Lake-White Lake Land Bridge (PPL 10)

Coastwide Reference Monitoring System – *Wetlands* (CRMS-*Wetlands*)

At the August 14, 2003 CWPPRA Task Force meeting, funding was authorized for CRMS-Wetlands through FY-06. The following request is for out-year funding through FY-07.

$3,101,357 CRMS-*Wetlands*

De-authorization of the West Point a la Hache Outfall Management Project (BA-04c)

State of Louisiana

M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

JACK C. CALDWELL
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 2, 2003

Mr. Donald Gohmert
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

Re: Request for Deauthorization
West Pointe a la Hache Outfall Management (BA-04c)

Dear Mr. Gohmert:

Please allow this letter to serve notice to your agency and to the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Technical Committee that the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hereby requests that the above-referenced project be deauthorized, as per the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), section 6 (p).

The stated objective of the proposed BA-04c project is to reduce the rate of loss of emergent wetlands by decreasing salinity and water level variations within the project area. To that end, it has been proposed that three fixed-crest weirs and three earthen plugs be placed in existing canals, and that the spoil bank on the south-eastern perimeter of the project area be restored.

In order to estimate the effectiveness of these structures in attaining the project goals, C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, Inc. were contracted to build a hydrodynamic model of the project area. Results from this model obtained through an exhaustive modeling effort over the span of the last two years indicate that the project features would only reduce area salinities by 2 parts per thousand or less. There are times during siphon operation that the salinities in the south-eastern portion of the project area are actually projected to increase by as much as 1 ppt with project features in place. Thus, while the proposed features may slightly increase the retention time of freshwater introduced to the

area by the siphon, they may also serve to retain higher salinity water that enters the project area from Barataria Bay. The minimal effect on salinity appears to result from the fact that even with the proposed features in place the project area will remain somewhat permeable. Modeling results indicate that the project features produce no noticeable influence on water level—again, the unmanaged openings and the low elevations of the Bayou Grand Chenier bank lines continue to provide substantial conduits for water to move into and out of the project area.

Given the existing ecological conditions, it is unlikely that the expected salinity and water level effects of the proposed project will produce the desired results on existing emergent vegetation and, thus, on land loss rates.

Considering the significant anticipated cost of project construction, the costly long term maintenance commitment, and the high likelihood that this project will not achieve the desired results, we feel that it is in the best interests of the CWPRPA program and all concerned that this project be deauthorized. Consequently, we hereby request that the CWPPRA Technical Committee recommend to the Task Force at the upcoming January meeting that the Chairman of the Technical Committee initiate the deauthorization process by notifying the appropriate parties as listed in the SOP, prior to the April 2004 Task Force meeting.

Very truly yours,

Jack C. Caldwell

JCC:BJG:tab

cc: CWPPRA Technical Members:
Mr. John Saia, USACE, Chairman, Technical Committee
Mr. Britt Paul, NRCS, Technical Committee Member
Mr. Darryl Clark, USFWS, Technical Committee Member
Mr. Rick Hartman, NMFS, Technical Committee Member
Mr. Troy Hill, EPA, Technical Committee Member
Dr. Bill Good, DNR, Technical Committee Member

Request for Construction Authorization for the Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation (CS-28) Cycles 2 – 5

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project

CWPPRA Technical Committee Meeting
December 10, 2003

Presented by:

Chris Monnerjahn
Project Manager, USACE

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Background

- **Approved by the CWPPRA Task Force in January 1999 as part of PPL 8**
- **Project consists of creating 5 marsh creation sites on the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.**
- **Dredge material comes from the annual maintenance dredging of the Calcasieu River Ship Channel.**
- **The COE Ops Div. pays for dredging the Calcasieu River and CWPPRA only pays for the extra cost of pumping to the Sabine Refuge.**

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Background (continued)

- **The entire project creates 1,120 acres for $21,489,235**

- **When the project was approved in Jan 1999, the TF only funded approximately 60% of the total project cost because of a CWPPRA funding crunch at the time. (Oak River and Lake Portage were also funded in this manner at the time.) Of the originally approved $10.1M, only $5.9M has been funded.**

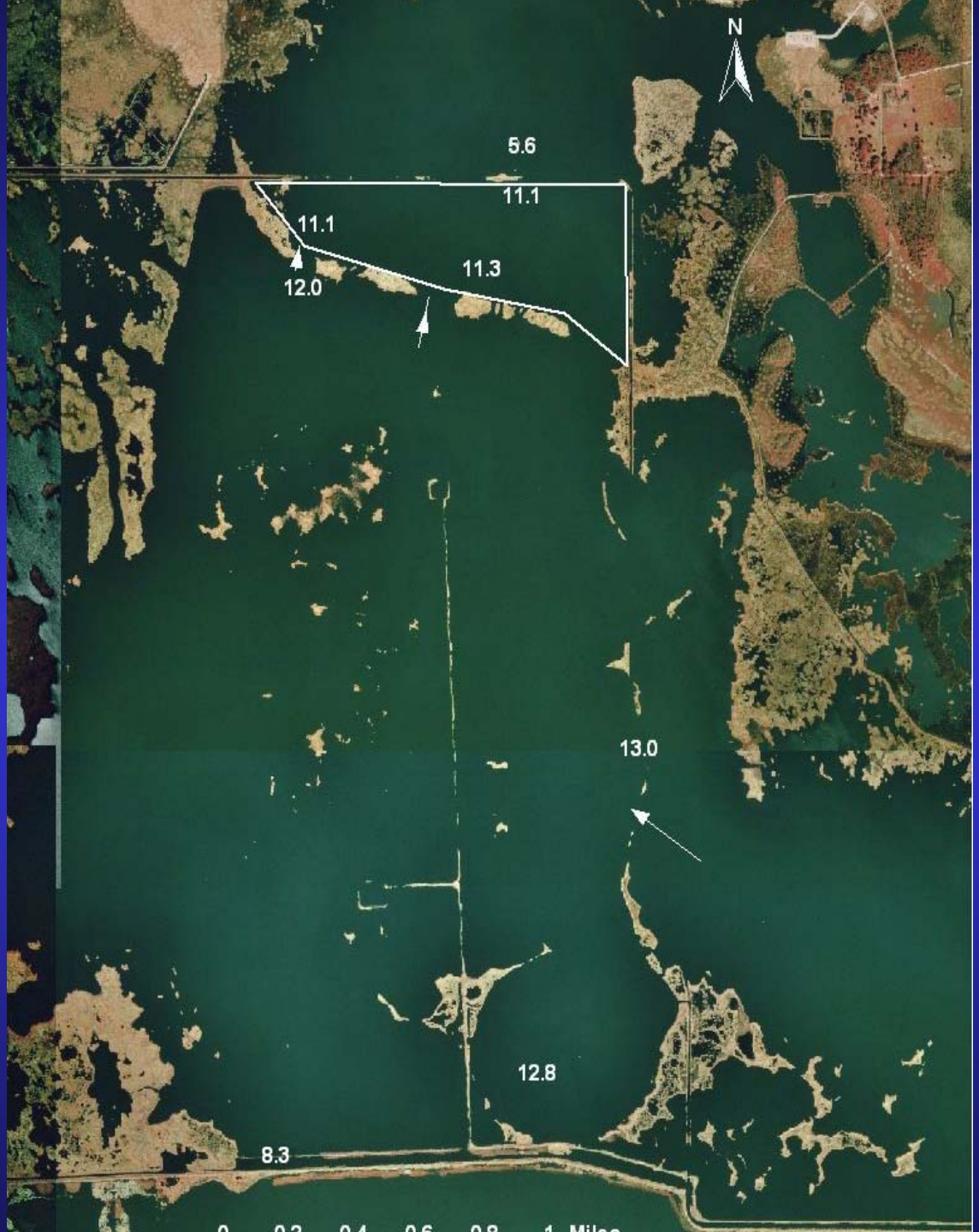
Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Cycle 1

- **In Jan 2001 the Task Force gave construction approval to Cycle 1.**
- **Construction of Cycle 1 was completed in January 2002.**
- **Cycle 1 involved the creation of approximately 200 acres of marsh at the cost of $3.4 M**

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Cycle 1

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Cycle 1

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Cycle 1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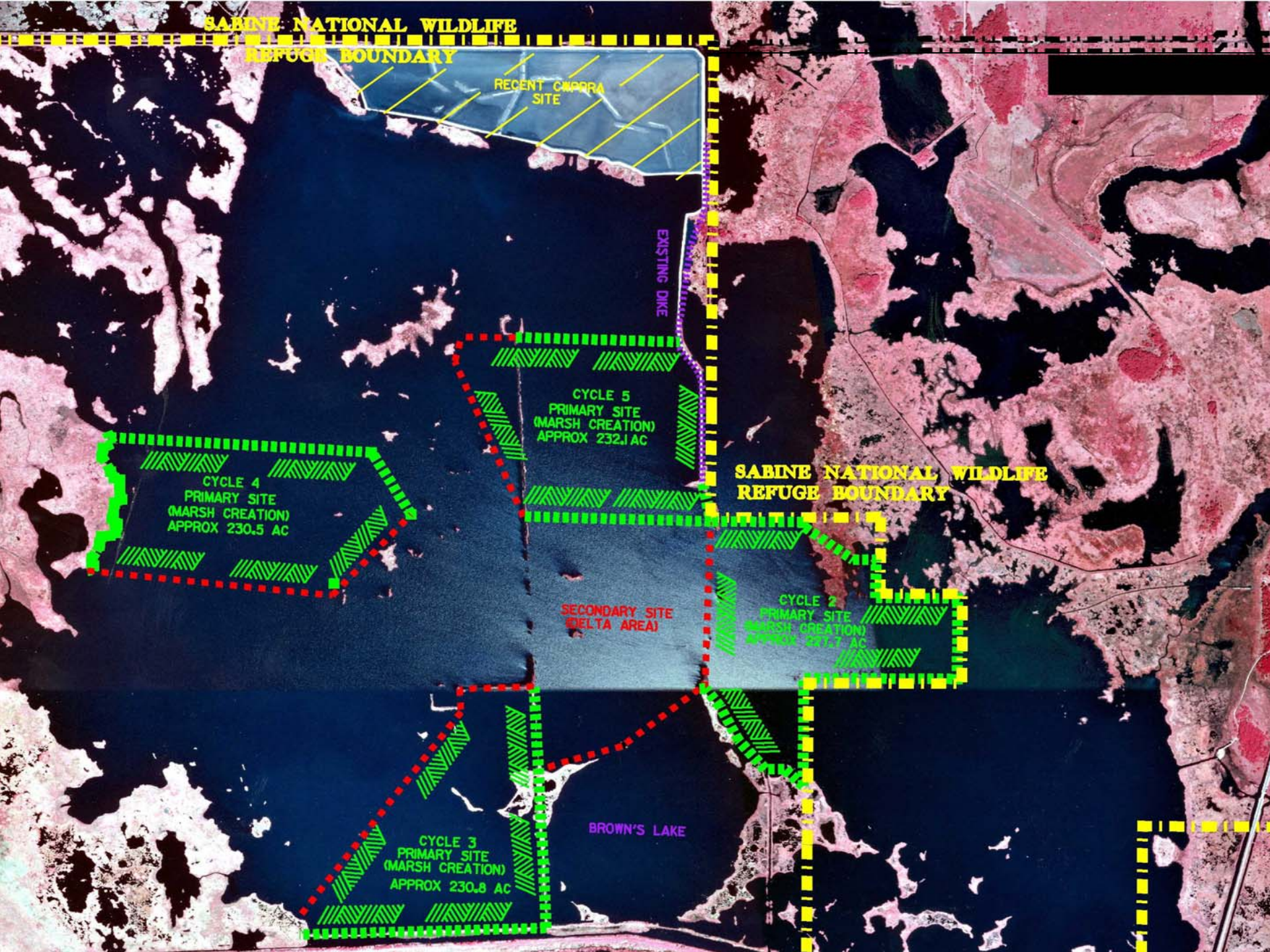

SABINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE BOUNDARY
RECENT CWPPRA
SITE
EXISTING DIKE
CYCLE 5
PRIMARY SITE
(MARSH CREATION)
APPROX 232.1 AC
CYCLE 4
PRIMARY SITE
(MARSH CREATION)
APPROX 230.5 AC
SABINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE BOUNDARY
SECONDARY SITE
(DELTA AREA)
CYCLE 2
PRIMARY SITE
(MARSH CREATION)
APPROX 227.7 AC
BROWN'S LAKE
CYCLE 3
PRIMARY SITE
(MARSH CREATION)
APPROX 230.8 AC

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project
Location of Future Cycles

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project

Cycles 2-5

- **USACE, USFWS, & DNR are seeking construction approval for Cycles 2-5.**
- **USACE, USFWS, & DNR are seeking $13,862,705 to construct the remaining Cycles.**
- **Cycles 2-5 will construct 920 acres of marsh at the cost of $18M.**

Construction Costs, Benefits & Schedules by Cycle:

Cycle	Costs	Benefits	Construction Start
Cycle 2	$8,808,217	230 acres	March 2005
Cycle 3	$3,504,333	230 acres	March 2006
Cycle 4	$3,630,831	230 acres	March 2007
Cycle 5	$2,133,439	230 acres	March 2008

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project
Cycles 2-5

Why are we seeking construction approval NOW for all cycles?

1. We are ready to begin to acquire RE for the permanent pipeline easement for the dredge pipe corridor. In order to begin negotiations, the COE must have construction approval to do so.
2. With the location of this pipeline corridor we can obtain dredge material and construct a cycle every year. With construction approval, an EA and a CSA already in place, we can maintain the momentum of constructing marsh every year.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CEMVN-PM-C (1110-2-1150a) December 2, 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ms. Julie LeBlanc, Chair, CWPPRA P&E Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Construction Approval and Funding Request for Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project (CS-28) Cycles 2-5, Cameron Parish, LA

1. As required by Section 6(i) of the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures Manual, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) request construction approval and funding for the subject project.

2. The following information summarizes completion of the tasks required prior to seeking authorization for project construction:

a. Description of the Project:

i. PROJECT HISTORY & STATUS: In January 1999, the Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project (CS-28) was approved as part of PPL 8. It consisted of the placement of a permanent pipeline to construct 5 separate marsh creation sites within the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. Dredge material comes from the annual maintenance dredging of the Calcasieu River Ship Channel. The USACE's Operations Division pays for dredging the material while CWPPRA only pays for the extra cost of pumping to the Refuge. In Jan 2001 the Task Force gave construction approval to Cycle 1. Cycle 1 involved the construction of approximately 200 acres of marsh at the cost of $3.4M. At the time, it was determined not to be cost effective to use a permanent pipeline within the originally proposed pipeline corridor. Therefore Cycle 1 was constructed with a temporary pipeline. The contractor, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co., Inc., secured his own pipeline corridor, which was a more direct route for the pipeline. The pipeline corridor that was used by Great Lakes is the one that we are going to use to construct Cycles 2-5. The location of this pipeline corridor has numerous benefits. With the new location of the corridor, a cycle could be constructed annually as opposed to every other year as was originally approved. We are now in the process of securing a permanent easement for this corridor. We also want to place a buried pipeline within the corridor whereby reducing damages to the environment and impacts to landowners.

We are ready to acquire the permanent easement for the pipeline. In order to begin negotiations, the USACE must have construction approval to do so.

ii. BENEFITS: The entire project (Cycles 1-5) consists of creating 1,120 acres of marsh. The four remaining cycles will consist of dredging approximately 4,000,000 cubic yards to create 920 acres of marsh. The dredged material will be contained by earthen dikes. Lower level earthen overflow weirs will be constructed to assist in the dewatering of each marsh creation disposal area and to create fringe marsh. Additional details and a project area map are provided in the attached fact sheet. Prioritization scores for cycles 2, 3, 4, and 5 are 54.75, 57.5, 52.5, and 57.5, respectively.

iii. FUNDING HISTORY: Typically when non-cash flow projects were approved, they received their money at the time of approval and only needed to return to the Technical Committee/Task Force for construction approval. The original project estimate of $10,154,277 was approved in January 1999 as part of PPL 8; however, the Task Force only funded $5,920,248 at that time. The Task Force also only partially funded the Oak River and Lake Portage projects at the time of PPL 8.

iv. COST INCREASE: The original total project cost estimate for constructing Cycles 1-5 was $10,154,277. The current estimated total project cost for constructing Cycles 1-5 is $21,489,235. The reason for the increased cost can be attributed to two main reasons: 1) The original construction estimate was under-estimated with regards to the cost of mobilization and demobilization as well as the price per cubic yard for dredging. 2) The original estimate also under-estimated the cost to secure the permanent pipeline corridor.

b. Section 303(e) Certification. Compliance of the project with CWPPRA Section 303(e) was certified on December 12, 2000.

c. Overgrazing determination. By letter dated November 20, 2000, the Natural Resources Conservation Service concluded that overgrazing is not a problem in the project area.

d. Cost estimate. The current fully funded cost estimate of the entire project (Cycles 1-5) is $21,489,235. The USACE, USFWS, and the LDNR are requesting funds in the amount of **$13,862,705** to complete the remaining **4 cycles**.

e. Signed cost sharing agreement. The cost sharing agreement between the Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana Department of the Natural Resources was executed on March 9, 2001.

f. NEPA compliance. A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on October 23, 2001.

g. Annual project expenditures. The current schedule and associated annual expenditures are provided in the attached table. In summary, negotiations for the pipeline corridor permanent easement will begin in January 2004. It is anticipated that Cycle 2 construction will begin in early spring 2005, depending on the dredging of the

Calcasieu River Ship Channel.

3. In summary, the USACE, USWS, and LDNR are requesting construction approval for Cycles 2-5 and funding in the amount of $13,862,705. The entire project will create 1,120 acres of marsh in the project area.

4. If you have any questions regarding the plan, please call Mr. Chris Monnerjahn at (504) 862-2415.

Chris Monnerjahn
Project Manager
Coastal Restoration Branch

Enclosures

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project (CS-28)

Project Location:
Region 4, Cameron Parish, The project is located on the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, west of Highway 27, in large open waters areas north and northwest of Brown's Lake.

Problem: The project area is experiencing marsh degradation due to saltwater intrusion and freshwater loss. This has resulted in the conversion of vegetated intermediate marsh to large shallow open water areas. Salinity is believed to migrate into the region from the Calcasieu River. Southeast winds push saline waters into the project area through canals and bayous. Wind driven waves cause further loss of the remaining marsh fringe.

Goals:
To use dredged material from maintaining the Calcasieu River Ship Channel to create marsh in the large open water project area in a strategic manner to block wind-induced saltwater introduction, to lessen freshwater loss, and to reduce open water fetch and erosion of marsh.

Proposed Solution:
This project consists of the creation of 1,120 acres of marsh using material dredged (approximately 5 million cubic yards) from the Calcasieu River Ship Channel in five cycles. The construction of cycle 1 included was completed in January 2002. Cycle 1 created approximately 200 acres of marsh at a cost of $3.4M. Each of the four remaining cycles will consist of dredging approximately 1,000,000 cubic yards to create 230 acres of marsh per cycle. The dredged material will be contained by earthen dikes. Lower level earthen overflow weirs will be constructed to assist in the dewatering of each marsh creation disposal area and to create fringe marsh. The dredged slurry will be placed between elevations +4.0' and +4.5' MLG. Should funding allow, a cycle could occur every year for a four-year period beginning in 2005.

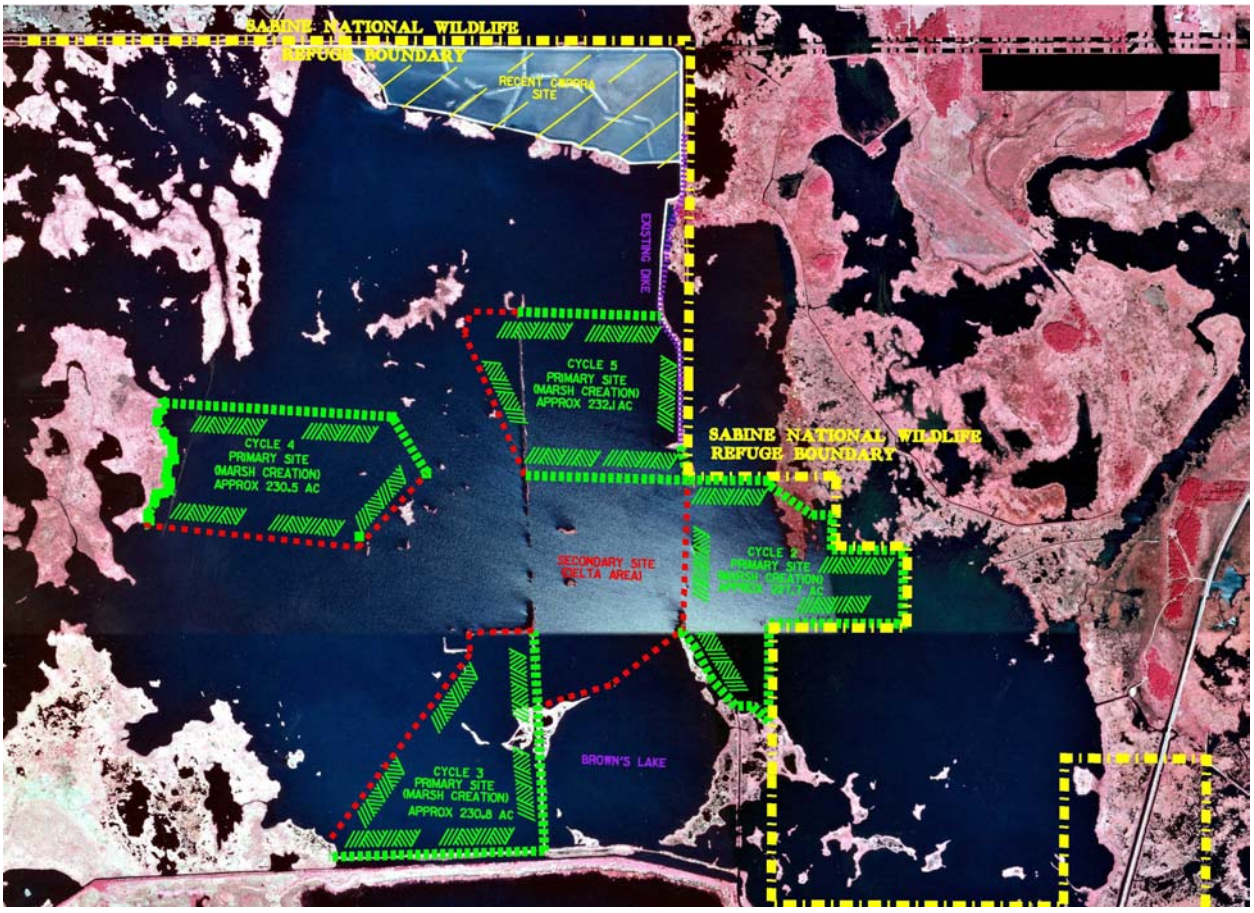
Project Benefits:
The project will create 1,120 acres of marsh. Approximately 993 acres of marsh would be created/protected over the 20-year project life.

Project Costs:
Total estimated fully funded cost is $21,489,235.

Project map: See attached

Preparers of Fact Sheet:
Chris Monnerjahn, USACE, (504) 862-2415, chris.monnerjahn@mvn02.usace.army.mil
Joyce Mazourek, USFWS, (337) 291-3112, joyce_mazourek@fws.gov
Herb Juneau, DNR, (337) 482-0684, herbj@dnr.state.la.us

Project Map:


SABINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE BOUNDARY
RECENT CAMERA SITE
EXISTING DIKE
CYCLE 5 PRIMARY SITE (MARSH CREATION) APPROX 232.1 AC
CYCLE 4 PRIMARY SITE (MARSH CREATION) APPROX 230.5 AC
SABINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE BOUNDARY
SECONDARY SITE (DELTA AREA)
CYCLE 2 PRIMARY SITE (MARSH CREATION)
BROWN'S LAKE
CYCLE 3 PRIMARY SITE (MARSH CREATION) APPROX 230.8 AC

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Estimate by Cycle

Date Prepared: 12/2/2003

Category Description	Cycle 1 Actual (Fed costs)	Cycle 1 Actual (State costs)	Cycle 1 Actual Subtotals	Cycle 2 Estimate in years 2004 - 2005	Cycle 3 Estimate in years 2005 - 2006	Cycle 4 Estimate in years 2006 - 2007	Cycle 5 Estimate in years 2007 - 2008	Cycles 1-5 Total Estimate
REAL ESTATE:	$91,966	$2,433	**$94,399**	$1,156,933	$10,436	$10,614	$10,794	**$1,283,176**
ENGINEERING & DESIGN								
ENGINEERING & DESIGN:	$246,267	$15,489	$261,756	$240,361	$78,272	$79,602	$80,955	
ENVIRONMENTAL								
Cultural Resources:								
HTRW:								
NEPA:								
ENVIRONMENTAL SUBTOTAL:	$58,850		$58,850	$83,990	$10,436	$10,614	$10,794	
ENGINEERING & DESIGN TOTAL:	$305,117	$15,489	**$320,607**	**$324,351**	**$88,708**	**$90,216**	**$91,749**	**$915,631**
PROJECT MANAGEMENT (S&A):	$115,202	$24,108	**$139,310**	**$193,153**	**$157,430**	**$160,106**	**$162,882**	**$812,881**
CONSTRUCTION								
CONSTRUCTION:	$2,323,355	$505,709	$2,829,064	$7,065,945	$3,178,771	$3,299,734	$1,796,590	
S&I:	$755	$608	$1,363	$52,181	$53,068	$53,970	$54,941	
CONSTRUCTION TOTAL:	$2,324,110	$506,317	**$2,830,427**	**$7,118,126**	**$3,231,839**	**$3,353,704**	**$1,851,531**	**$18,385,627**
O, M, R & R:		$2,003	$2,003					**$2,003**
MONITORING:		$25,669	**$25,669**	$15,654	$15,920	$16,191	$16,483	**$89,917**
PROJECT TOTAL:	$2,836,394	$576,020	$3,412,415	**$8,808,217**	**$3,504,333**	**$3,630,831**	**$2,133,439**	**$21,489,235**

Request for Additional Phase I Funding for a Revised Design for the New Cut Dune / Marsh Restoration Project (TE-11a)

August 19, 2003

Time Line
New Cut Dune/ Marsh Restoration, TE-37
Weeks Marine, Inc.

Compiled by: Chris Williams, P.E.
LDNR Project Manager

Federal Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency

August 22, 2001; Construction Bids were received and Weeks Marine, Inc was the low bidder. The bid amount was $8,105,150.

October 16, 2001; LDNR sent recommendation to award contract to Weeks Marine, Inc.

Barrier Island projects are typically constructed from May to September due to more favorable weather conditions. The contract specifications state: "The Contract Time for this project is 150 days, beginning on the date indicated on the Notice to Proceed (NTP). The date on the NTP shall be selected by the CONTRACTOR, in coordination with the OWNER. The selected date may be any date between the date of the award of the contract and May 1, 2002. The CONTRACTOR shall then have 150 days from the date on the NTP to complete construction. The CONTRACTOR shall notify the OWNER via certified mail of the selected date, at least 15 days in advance of the date selected."

May 1, 2002; Contract time started. Weeks Marine had not mobilized any equipment to the project site but had begun surveying the construction baseline.

May 2, 2002; A meeting was held at the office of LDNR at the request of Senator Reggie Dupree, Oneil Malbourgh and Terrebonne Parish Officials, Parish Engineer Bob Jones and Councilmember Daniel Henry. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the selected borrow area for the New Cut project. The parish opposed the borrow location and requested LDNR investigate an alternate location.

May 13, 2002; A meeting was held with LDNR CRD engineers and Marc Rogers, engineer with T. Baker Smith and Sons looking at alternate borrow areas.

May 21, 2002; LDNR CRD and EPA decided we needed to locate an alternate borrow location.

June 6, 2002; LDNR CRD met with DOA and discussed public bid law. LDNR CRD was concerned we were violating public bid law by moving borrow area to another location. At this time LDNR CRD was looking for an alternate borrow area behind the island. DOA told LDNR CRD we were not violating public bid law.

June 7, 2002; LDNR CRD issued a stop work order, until we were able to locate an alternate borrow location.

June 16, 2002; LDNR met with Weeks Marine, Inc. to discuss contract. Secretary Caldwell requested from Weeks Marine, Inc. an itemized list of actual costs incurred.

August 16, 2002; LDNR received a letter from Weeks Marine, Inc. whereby they were requesting $180,000 to terminate the contract. This proposal was based on Weeks Marine being paid for unrecoverable fixed costs. This was not what was requested at the June 16, 2002 meeting.

Weeks Marine, Inc. did not want to terminate the contract and stipulated in the letter their willingness to defer performance in order to provide LDNR the opportunity to identify alternate sand sources.

Week of August 19, 2002; Chris Williams had a telephone conversation with Steve Chatry, Weeks Marine, Inc. discussing their previous letter. Chris Williams stated that what was submitted in their August 16, 2002 meeting was not what was requested.

The conversation turned to a borrow location and Steve Chatry asked if they should investigate the cost to build the project with sand from Ship Shoal. Chris Williams stated that this would be fine, however; the cost could not be any higher than the contract amount.

September 11, 2002; LDNR received a cost proposal from Weeks Marine, Inc. proposing to build the project with Ship Shoal sand for the amount of the current budget ($8.1 million). There were numerous caveats listed in the Weeks proposal. To resolve these issues Weeks Marine, Inc. suggested performing a test dredge. A copy of the letter is attached.

December 26, 2002; Weeks Marine, Inc performed the test dredge on Ship Shoal

January 16, 2003; Weeks Marine Inc. submitted a revised proposal based in information from the test dredge.

January 28, 2003; LDNR met internally and discussed Weeks using Ship Shoal as the borrow area. LDNR wanted to make sure we were not violating public bid law. Judy LeBourgeois, LDNR Purchasing, felt we were violating public bid law and stated she would check with DOA. After discussing this issue with DOA, it was determined going to Ship Shoal as our borrow area will require LDNR to re-bid the project.

Week of February 24, 2003; John Hodnett, LDNR Project Engineer and Chris Williams called and spoke with Steve Chatry, Weeks Marine, Inc. about the status of the contract. Steve was told that it was determined we would need to re-bid the project. LDNR requested that Weeks Marine, Inc. submit an itemized listing of cost incurred on the project.

June 25, 2003; Chris Williams replied to Weeks Marine, Inc. letter dated June 13, 2003 and informed them that what was sent was not acceptable in that LDNR is not able to pay Weeks Marine for loss of profit. A copy of the letter is attached.

June 27, 2003; Weeks Marine, Inc. sent a revised settlement offer.

New Cut - Estimate at 125% Level (Approved Jan 2000)

Original Estimate	Total	Phase I	Phase II
Engr & Design	497,734	497,734	
Lands	185,098	185,098	
Fed S&A	296,730	148,365	148,365
DNR S&A	141,232	70,616	70,616
COE Admin	973	973	
COE Admin - Const Ph	973		973
COE Admin - Long Term	19,179		19,179
Construction	6,165,379		6,165,379
TF approved Construction budget increase	1,335,000		1,335,000
Construction S&I	120,048		120,048
Contingency	1,541,345		1,541,345
Monitoring	23,851	23,851	
Monitoring - Const Ph	18,559		18,559
Monitoring - Long Term	136,209		136,209
O&M	35,829		35,829
Total	10,518,139	926,637	9,591,502

New Cut - Expended to date (September 2003)

Expended to Date	Total	Phase I	Phase II
Engr & Design	501,895	501,895	
Lands	28,507	28,507	
Fed S&A	122,692	118,692	4,000
DNR S&A	73,419	70,616	2,803
COE Admin	973	973	
COE Admin - Const Ph	973		973
COE Admin - Long Term	-		
Construction*	235,021		235,021
Construction S&I	-		-
Contingency	-		-
Monitoring	12,522	12,522	
Monitoring - Const Ph	-		-
Monitoring - Long Term	-		-
O&M	896		896
Total	976,898	733,205	243,693

New Cut - Redesign Estimate

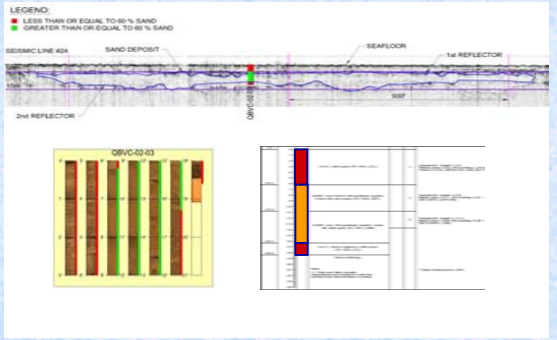
Revised Estimate	Total	Phase I	Phase II
Engr & Design	300,000	300,000	
Lands	1,500	1,500	
Fed S&A	20,000	20,000	
DNR S&A	50,000	50,000	
COE Admin	973	973	
COE Admin - Const Ph	-		
COE Admin - Long Term	-		
Construction	-		
Construction S&I	-		
Contingency	-		
Monitoring	3,000	3,000	
Monitoring - Const Ph	-		
Monitoring - Long Term	-		
O&M	-		
Total	375,473	375,473	-

Construction* Figure includes cost cancel construction contract with Weeks Marine, Inc. Final figure could be $55,021. LDNR is in the process of determining exact amount. The amount $235,021 is what Weeks Marine is requesting. $55,021 is the amount LDNR is will to pay.

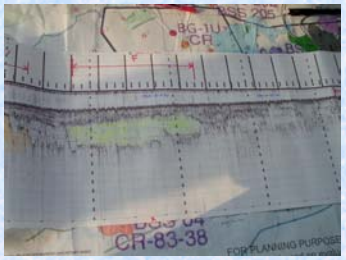
Amount required to redesign project:

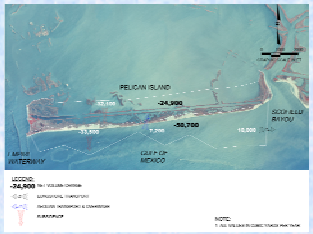
$ 182,041.00

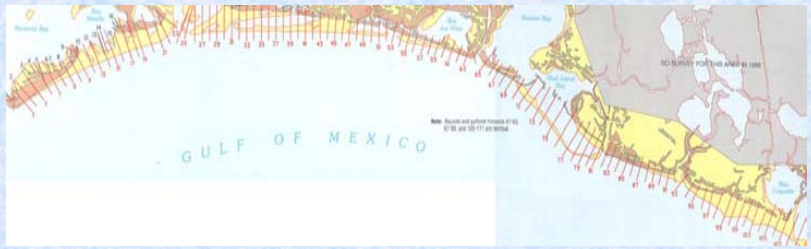
Request for Phase II Authorization for the Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project, Pelican Island and Pass La Mer to Chaland (BA-38)



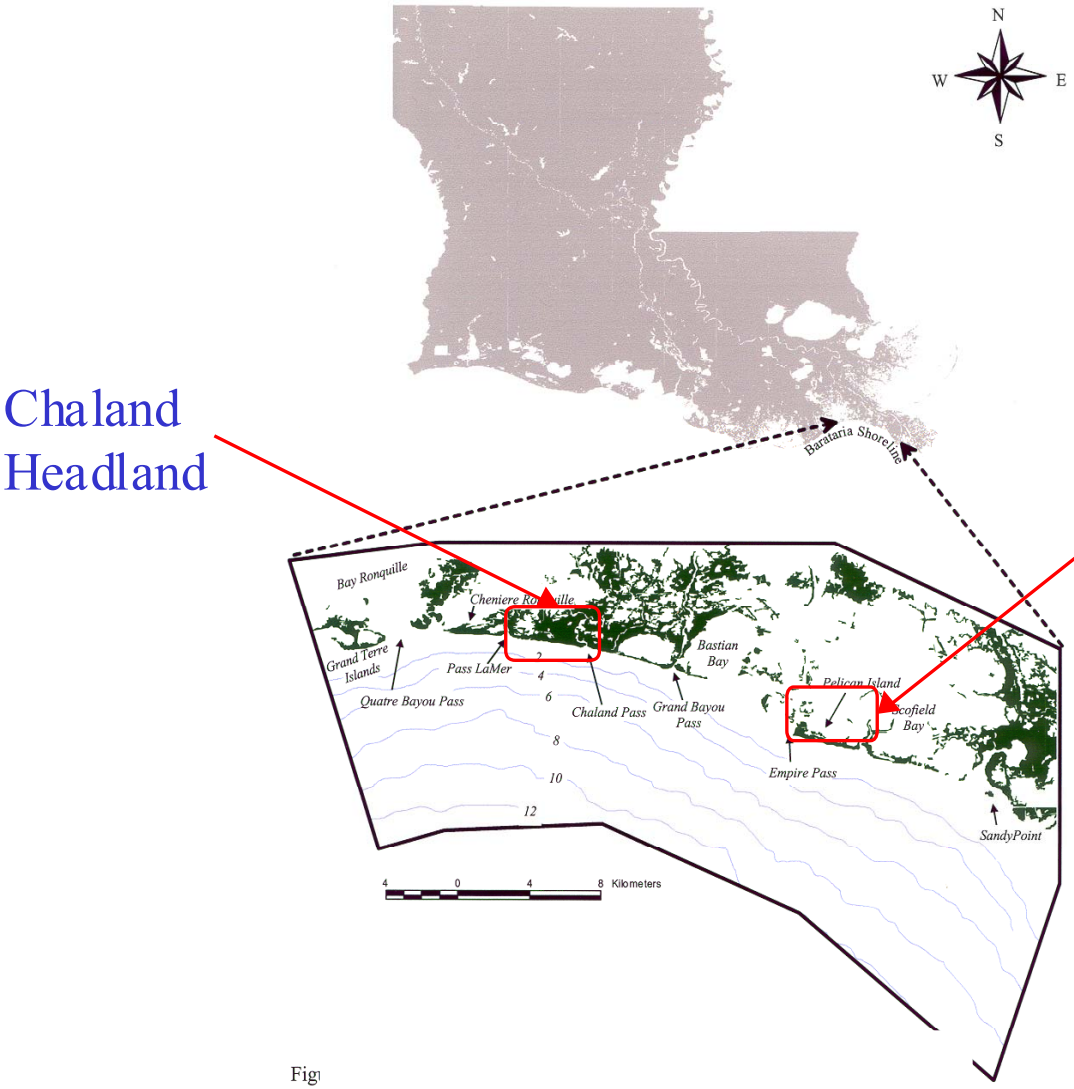
BARATARIA/PLAQUEMINES BARRIER SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT







Pelican Island and Chaland Headland



Chaland Headland

Pelican Island

Fig

CWPPRA Project Authorization

- Phase "0" / planning level work authorized on PPL 9

- Phase One authorized in 2002 (PPL 11) for Chaland Headland and Pelican Island reaches

  - Project goals: create dune, berm and intertidal wetlands, prevent breaching, reduce shoreline erosion rates
  - Construction of 196 to 377 acres beach, dune, and marsh acres, depending on island reach and construction alternative
  - TY 20 project benefits projected to range from 69 net acres to 124 net acres
  - Total Fully funded costs estimated to be $54.3M

Summary of Phase 1 Tasks

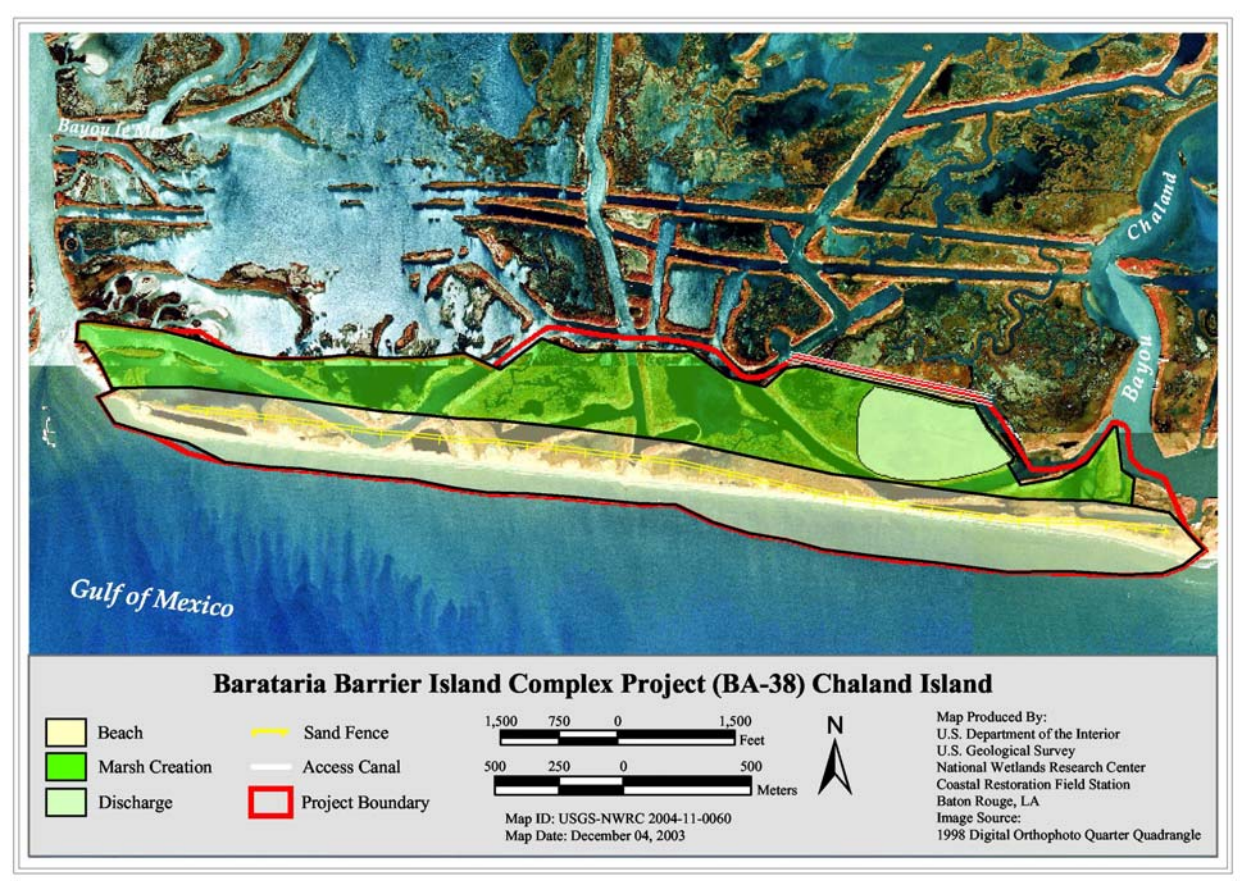
Engineering and Design

- Geotechnical Investigations (115 cores and >250 miles siesmic) for 4 areas
- Complete surveys in fall 2002, limited re-surveys in December 2002 and December 2003
- Develop sediment budgets
- Predict future shoreline positions and assess cross-shore performance
- Select preferred alternative for final design
- Develop final P&S and quantity and cost estimates

Regulatory/Environmental Compliance

- COE, LDNR, and LDEQ applications submitted
- Completed cultural resource assessments per SHPO and MMS requirements
- Initiated consultation with NOAA Protected Resources
- Coordinated with MMS in development of NEPA documentation

Chaland Headland



Post-construction

Dune: 90 acres

Supratidal: 90 acres

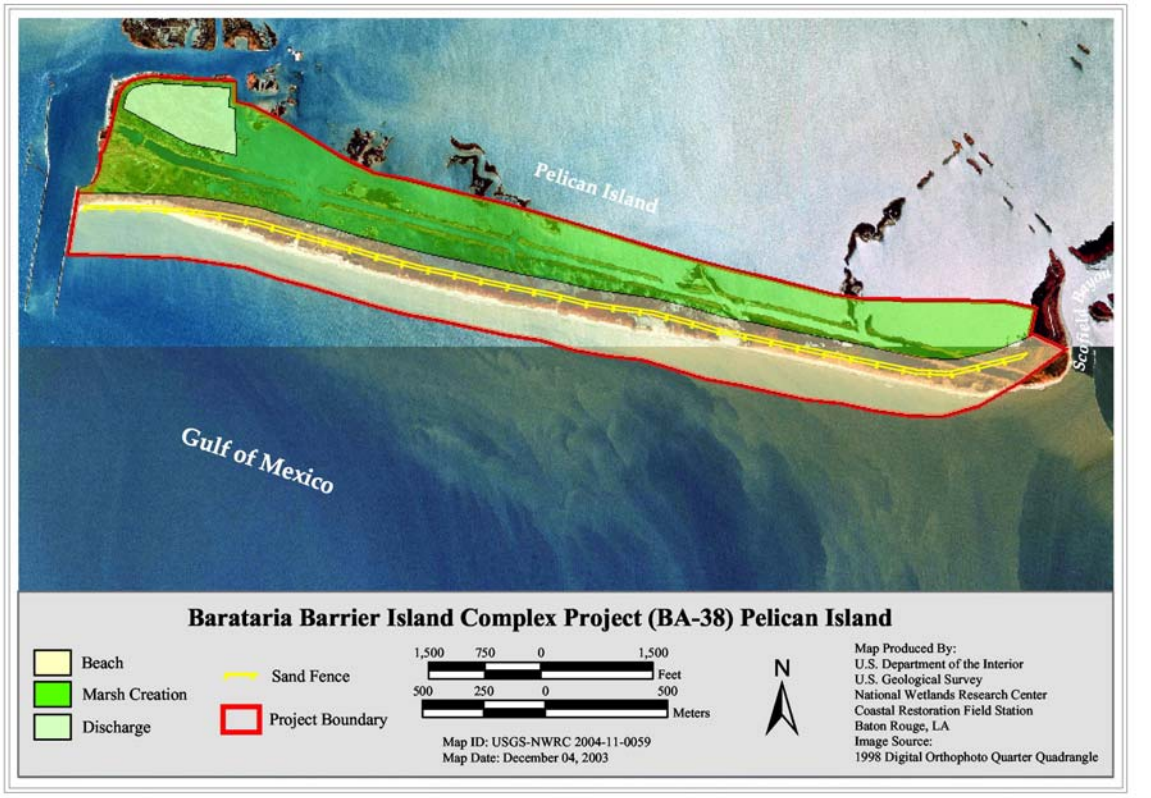
Intertidal: 246 acres

Long-term performance

Shoreline ± 225 feet seaward of projected FWOP position

Net acres ± 279

Pelican Island



Post-construction

Dune: 57 acres

Supratidal: 77 acres

Intertidal: 264 acres

Long-term performance

Shoreline ± 225 feet seaward of projected FWOP position

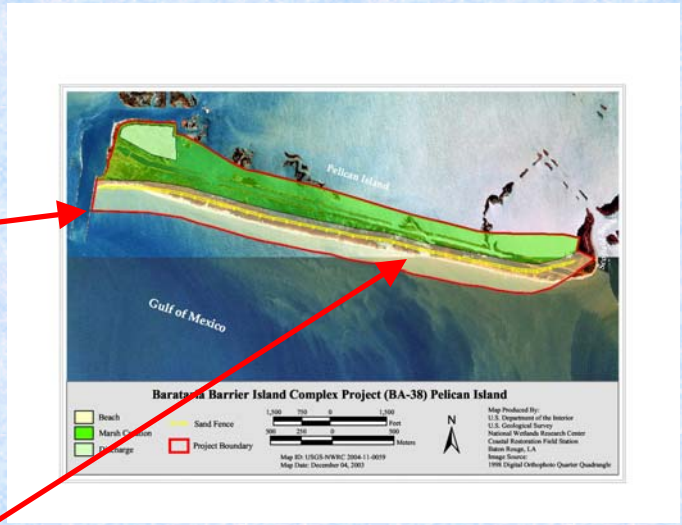
Net acres ± 254

Comparison Phase I and 95% level costs and benefits

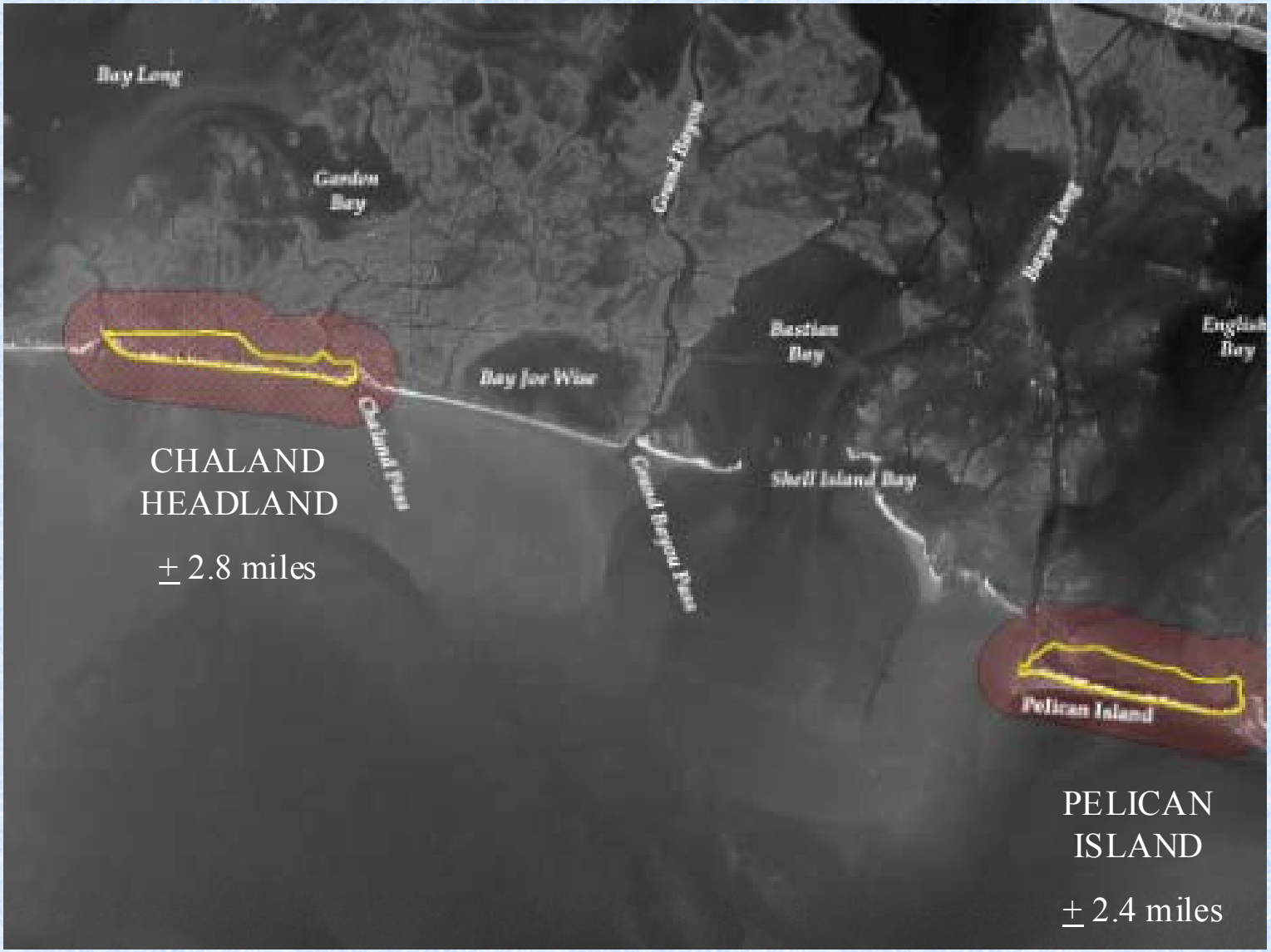
	At Phase One authorization	Current at Phase Two request
Net Acres @ TY20	184	534
AAHUs	198	286
Fully Funded first costs (million)	$53.7	$59.9
Total Fully funded costs (million)	$54.3	$61.9

Chaland Headland: current conditions

Pelican Island: current conditions



Pelican Island and Chaland Headland



Changes from Phase 1 Authorization

- Construction template modified during Phase 1:
  - No distinct “dune” feature
  - Beach berm targeted to +6 feet NAVD to avoid breaching

- Construction footprint modified during Phase 1
  - Account for existing infrastructure
  - Incorporate “water discharge” cells into each project
  - “Fit” the existing landscape

- Sandy Point borrow area incorporated into project as source for Pelican Island coarse-grained materials due to inadequate sand at Empire or Scoffield.

Chaland Headland: current conditions

Updated Benefits

PELICAN ISLAND 2003 WVA			
	Dune	Supratidal	Intertidal
As-built acres	73	338	61
TY3 acres	57	77	264
TY20 acres	0	51	203

CHALAND HEADLAND 2003 WVA			
	Dune	Supratidal	Intertidal
As-built acres	111	276	65
TY3 acres	90	90	246
TY20 acres	0	82	197

CHALAND AND PELICAN SUB-REACHES			
TY3 Acres Total	147	167	510

Without projects in 20 years:

- shoreline will be about_____ feet north of current position
- _____ acres of land will remain in project areas
- islands will breach

With projects, in 20 years:

- shoreline will be ____ inland of current position
- about ___ acres of land will remain
- breaching should be prevented

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

December 9, 2003

Mr. John Saia, Chairman
Technical Committee
Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation
and Restoration Task Force
c/o Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CEMVN-PM-C
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Saia:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) hereby request Phase II approval of the Barataria Barrier Shoreline Complex project (BA-38). That project was authorized by the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force (Task Force) under the authority of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). This request is submitted in accordance with the CWPPRA Project Standard Operating Procedures Manual.

The initial increment of the Phase II funding request is $57,368,411 which includes construction, supervision and inspection, state and federal administration, three years of monitoring, operations and maintenance and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project management.

Phase I Project Description

The initiation of Phase I was approved by the Task Force on January 16, 2002, as part of Priority Project List 11. The project involves the restoration of two sub-reaches of the Barataria Barrier Shoreline: Pelican Island and Chaland Headland. The goals of the project are to (1) maintain the integrity of the sub-reaches to prevent breaching by increasing its width and average height; and (2) protect, create and restore dune, swale, and intertidal marsh habitat along the Plaquemines barrier island / shoreline complex.

The total project budget as estimated at Phase I authorization, at the 100 percent funding level, was:

Estimated Phase I

Engineering and Design	$1,911,930
Easements and Land Rights	$146,826
Pre-Construction Monitoring	$65,862

Federal S&A	$531,978
LDNR S&A	$425,583
Corps Project Management	$1,755
Total Estimated Phase I	$3,083,934

Estimated Phase II

Construction	$46,141,709
Construction Supervision and Inspection	$754,659
Land Rights Coordination	$2,643,567
Federal S&A	$570,384
LDNR S&A	$456,307
Corps Project Management	$23,856
Monitoring Costs	$356,946
Operations and Maintenance	$276,195
Total Estimated Phase II	$51,223,623

Total Fully Funded Cost	$54,307,600
Total Fully Funded Cost (125%)	$67,884,500

Overview of Phase I Tasks, Process and Issues

Phase I activities included pre-design investigations, engineering and design tasks, land rights activities, and environmental compliance and coordination.

Pre-design investigations were conducted to obtain updated topographic and bathymetric surveys and to complete detailed geotechnical investigations of four potential borrow areas. Design tasks included development of sediment budgets, performance assessments of the design cross-sections to select a design template, consideration of three alternative construction alignments, and both cross-shore and long-shore performance modeling. Additional tasks included assessment of shallow geotechnical conditions to establish initial and target fill heights for the marsh platform and to develop templates for retention dike construction. Potential impacts to wave climate were evaluated through application of appropriate models (i.e., STWAVE). All borrow areas were surveyed for hazards, archaeological and cultural resources.

Complete Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Phase One assessments were conducted for both sub-reaches. The assessments concluded that there were no indications of hazardous waste issues at either site, and that no additional assessments were warranted. Cultural resources assessments were completed in accordance with the recommendations of the State Historic Preservation Officer. Consultation has been initiated with NOAA's Protected Resources regarding the potential use of hopper dredged for a portion of the projects and potential effects on listed sea turtles. An Environmental Assessment is in preparation, and will be available in early December, 2003. The Minerals Management Service is serving as a cooperating agency on the EA as partial fulfillment of its requirements regarding issuance of a non-competitive lease for

sand mining from the Outer Continental Shelf. A pre-application meeting was held with regulatory and commenting agencies and permit applications were placed on public notice November 21, 2003.

Description of the Phase II Project

The proposed project involves restoration of two sub-reaches of the Barataria Barrier Shoreline. The Chaland Headland sub-reach is about 3.1 miles long, and is located between Pass La Mer and Chaland Pass. Restoration of this sub-reach will result in the restoration and creation of about 180 acres of dune, beach and berm, and the restoration and creation of about 246 acres of intertidal saline marsh. All project components will be built using materials mined from the Quatre Bayou borrow area. Approximately 1,532,000 cubic yards of fine sand will be placed on the gulf shoreline to create a dune with a nominal width of 200 feet to a crest height of +6 NAVD. About 957,000 cy of fine-grained materials will be mined and placed in the marsh platform to an initial fill height of 2.5 feet NAVD, which is anticipated to settle to a design elevation of 1.5 feet NAVD within three years of construction. The project features include construction of an access canal to maintain access for oil and gas operations in the project area due to interruption of the existing access through critical segments of the project fill area. Additional features include installation of sand fencing concurrent with dune construction, dune and marsh vegetative plantings, and post construction gapping of retention dikes and creation of tidal features.

The Pelican Island sub-reach is located immediately east of the Empire Waterway. Restoration of this sub-reach will maintain the integrity of about 2.4 miles of shoreline. About 134 acres of dune, beach and berm will be restored, and approximately 264 acres of intertidal saline marsh will be created and restored. Two borrow areas will be used: the Sandy Point area is located in federal waters, and will be mined to obtain 1,445,000 cy of coarse grained materials for construction of beach and dune features. The marsh platform will be created using about 958,000 cy obtained from either Sandy Point overburden, or material from the Empire borrow area. The material will be placed to an initial fill height of 2.6 feet NAVD, which is anticipated to settle to a design elevation of 1.5 feet NAVD within three years of construction. Tidal features will be pre-dredged prior to placement of fill material. Other project features include installation of sand fencing concurrent with dune construction, both dune and marsh vegetative plantings, and post-construction gapping of retention dikes.

Project Costs and Expenditures

The estimated total fully funded cost is $61,995,600. The fully funded first costs are $59,978,500, which include all Phase I activities, project construction and associated inspection, land rights, and Federal and state administration.

Project expenditures to date include:

Federal Supervision and Administration	$353,177
Engineering and design	$2,537,051
State Supervision and Administration	$113,981
Land rights	$ 70,000
Monitoring	$9,321
TOTAL	$3,083,530

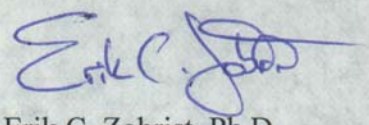
Updated Project Benefits

Revised Wetland Value Assessments were prepared for both sub-reaches to reflect final project design. The following table compares the original WVA benefits and project costs with the revised benefits and current project costs.

	At Phase One authorization	Current at Phase Two request	% Difference
Net Acres @ TY20	184	534	290%
AAHUs	198	287	145%
Fully Funded first costs (million)	$53.7	$59.9	112%
Total Fully funded costs (million)	$54.3	$61.9	114%

The checklist of Phase II requirements is enclosed with this letter. Should you have any questions, please contact Rachel Sweeney at 225/389-0508.

Sincerely,



Erik C. Zobrist, Ph.D.
Program Officer

c:
Richard Hartman, NMFS, Baton Rouge, LA
Bill Good, DNR/CRD, Baton Rouge, LA
Troy Hill, EPA, Dallas, TX
Britt Paul, NRCS, Alexandria, LA
Darryl Clark, USFWS, Lafayette, LA
Rachel Sweeney, NMFS, Baton Rouge, LA
Greg Grandy, DNR/CED
Files

Checklist of Phase II Request Requirements
Barataria Barrier Shoreline (BA-38)

A. A list of project goals and strategies.

Nourish the gulf shoreline and create approximately 147 acres of dune and 167 acres of supratidal habitat with sand and create 510 acres of back-barrier marsh platform settled to an elevation with unrestricted tidal exchange within three years after construction.

Fill breaches, restore and create dune and marsh to increase island longevity and maintain integrity of the sub-reaches to provide sufficient protection to prevent breaching with a 20-year or lesser storm event.

B. A statement that the Cost Sharing Agreement between the lead agency and local sponsor has been executed for Phase I.

A cooperative agreement was executed between LDNR and NOAA on July 1, 2002.

C. Notification from the State or the Corps that land rights will be finalized in a short period of time after Phase II approval.

Landrights are about 85% complete. All landowners have executed agreements for both sub-reaches. All agreements with pipeline companies are under review by the companies. All oyster leases are currently being evaluated and appraised. LDNR anticipates completion of landrights prior to, or shortly after, Phase II approval, pending the outcome of negotiations with the oyster leaseholders.

D. A favorable Preliminary Design Review (30 Percent Design Level).

A 30% Design Meeting was held on June 18, 2003, and resulted in favorable reviews of the project design. NOAA and LDNR agreed to proceed with the project.

E. A favorable Final Project Design Review (95 Percent Design Level).

A 95 Percent Design Meeting was held on December 3, 2003.

F. A draft of the Environmental Assessment for the project, as required under the National Environmental Policy Act, must be submitted 30 days before the request for Phase II approval.

An Environmental Assessment prepared by NOAA with MMS serving as a cooperating agency will be circulated for agency review in mid to late December, 2003, at least 30 days prior to the Task Force meeting.

G. A written summary of the finding of the Ecological Review.

The Ecological Review includes the following summary:

> "Beach nourishment via dune building and marsh creation are viable means of rebuilding and maintaining barrier islands. Numerical models designed to evaluate project design alternatives and mimic the surrounding hydrology of the islands have also depicted the expected impacts of the proposed project features have on island stability. Analysis of the models provide a conduit to make well educated decisions on which alternatives to place under further review and how to proceed after the best alternative has been selected. Literature reviews of past projects similar in nature and design to the Pelican Island and Pass La Mer to Chaland Pass project have shown that sand fences and vegetation plantings are a major component of successfully restoring barrier island environments. Both sand fences and vegetation plantings help sustain dune integrity and strength while providing habitat for wildlife. The findings as presented in the Assessment of Goal Attainability section show the potential for success of this project and the need for action if Pelican Island and Pass La Mer to Chaland Pass are desired for future generations.

H. Application for and/or issuance of the public notices for permits.

A pre-application meeting was held with regulatory and commenting agencies on September 26, 2003. Applications were advertised on Joint Public Notice dated November 21, 2003.

I. A statement that a hazardous, toxic and radiological waste (HTRW) assessment has been prepared, if required.

HTRW/Phase One Environmental Site Assessments were completed for both sub-reaches. The reports concluded that there were no indications of hazardous waste issues at either site, and that no additional assessments were warranted.

J. Section 303(e) approval from the Corps.

Received June 3, 2003.

K. Overgrazing determination from the NRCS.

An overgrazing determination was received from the NRCS on January 23, 2003. The NRCS determined that there is no livestock grazing in the project area, nor do they see a potential for grazing once the project is installed.

L. Revised Project cost estimate.

Based on updated construction cost estimates and operations and maintenance budgets, the total fully funded project cost is $61,995,600.

M. Estimate of project expenditures by state fiscal year subdivided by funding category.

Expenditures through November 30, 2003	
Engineering and Design	$2,537,051
Landrights	$70,000
Federal Supervision and Administration	$353,177
State Supervision and Administration	$113,981
Monitoring	$9,321
TOTAL	$3,083,530

N. A revised Wetland Value Assessment must be prepared if, during the review of the preliminary NEPA documentation, three of the Task Force agencies determine that a significant change in the project scope occurred.

Revised WVA were prepared for both sub-reaches to reflect final project design. The following table compares the original WVA benefits and project costs with the revised benefits and current project costs.

	At Phase One authorization	Current at Phase Two request	% Difference
Net Acres @ TY20	184	534	290%
AAHUs	198	287	145%

REQUEST FOR PHASE II APPROVAL

PROJECT: Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project

PPL: 11 **Project No.** BA-38

Agency NMFS

Phase I Approval Date: 16-Jan-02

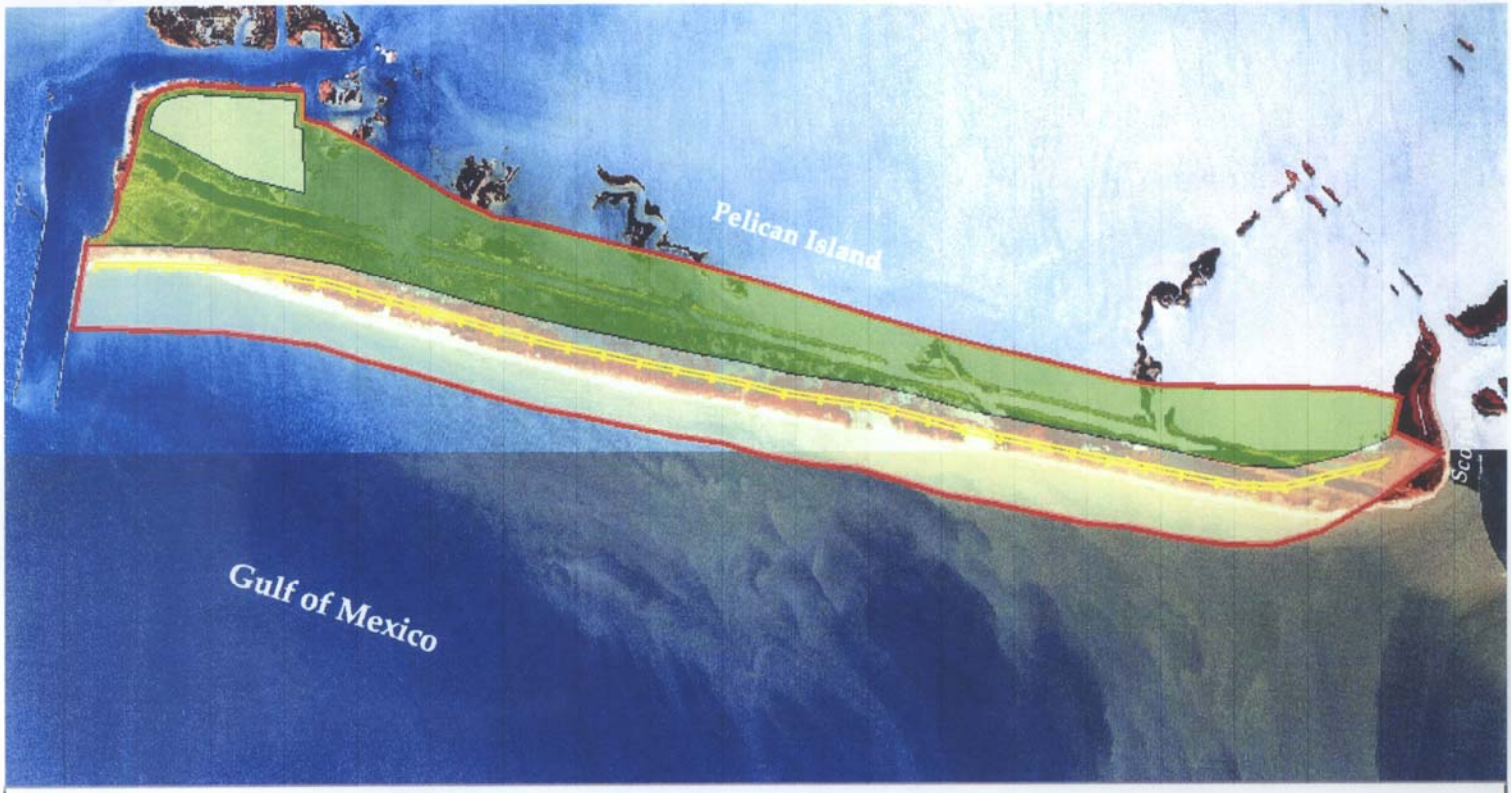
Phase II Anticipated Approval Date: 28-Jan-04

	Original Baseline Phase I (100% Level) 1/	Original Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 2/	Recommended Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 3/	Recommended Baseline Phase II Incr 1 (100% Level) 4/
Engr & Des	$1,911,930			
Lands	$146,826	$2,643,567	$2,473,015	$2,473,015
Fed S&A	$531,978	$570,384	$514,098	$514,098
LDNR S&A	$425,583	$456,307	$411,278	$411,278
COE Proj Mgmt				
Phase I	$1,755			
Ph II Const Phase		$1,892	$325	$325
Ph II Long Term		$21,964	$15,800	$2,016
Const Contract		$36,913,367	$45,745,321	$45,745,321
Const S&I		$754,659	$888,751	$888,751
Contingency		$9,228,342	$6,861,798	$6,861,798
Monitoring				
Phase I	$65,862			
Ph II Const Phase		$26,446	$0	$0
Ph II Long Term		$330,500	$703,800	$234,749
O&M		$276,195	$1,297,500	$237,012
Total	**$3,083,934**	**$51,223,623**	**$58,911,686**	**$57,368,363**
Total Project		**$54,307,557**	**$61,995,620**	**$60,452,297**
Percent Over Original			**114%**	
Maximum Project Cost		**$67,884,446**	**$77,494,525**	

Prepared By: _____ **Date Prepared:** _____

NOTES:

(1) Phase II monitoring defined as CRMS; removed from Phase II estimate.



Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project (BA-38) Pelican Island

Beach
Marsh Creation
Discharge
Sand Fence
Project Boundary

1,500 750 0 1,500 Feet
500 250 0 500 Meters

N

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2004-11-0059
Map Date: December 04, 2003

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, LA
Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project (BA-38) Chaland Island

Beach
Marsh Creation
Discharge
Sand Fence
Access Canal
Project Boundary

1,500 750 0 1,500 Feet
500 250 0 500 Meters

N

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2004-11-0060
Map Date: December 04, 2003

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, LA
Image Source:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Request for Phase II Authorization for the Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project (northeast only) (BA-27d) Phase 4 - Construction Unit 6

United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

December 1, 2003

Ms. Julie LeBlanc, Chair
CWPPRA Planning and Evaluation Committee
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Ms. Leblanc:

RE: Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d)
"Cash-Flow" Phase Two Authorization Request

This Phase Two Authorization Request is for the **entire** Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d), approximately 29,500 feet of shoreline protection located on the left descending bank of Bayou Rigolettes in Jefferson Parish. This project would be constructed via a single contract, referred to by NRCS as "Construction Unit 6".

Pursuant to Revision 7.0 of the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (Section 6.j. and Appendix C), I have enclosed a document entitled "Information Required in Phase Two Authorization Request". As noted in that document, the 95% Design review will be conducted in mid-January 2004, prior to Task Force consideration of this request.

A full schedule of estimated costs is presented with that document, but a few cost items are worthy of note here: 1) The original estimate for Construction plus Contingency was $22.5M; the current for Construction plus Contingency is $14.6M. 2) Whereas, this project will be monitored via the Coastwide Reference Monitoring System, the current estimate for Monitoring for this project is $0. 3) Review of the Operation and Maintenance budget prompted an addition of about $243,000 for periodic structural assessment surveys at years 2008, 2012, and 2019. 4) Other costs remain as originally estimated.

If you or any members of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, Technical Committee or Task Force have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (318) 473-7756.

Sincerely,

Britt Paul
Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources

cc (via email):

John Saia, Technical Committee Chair
Dr. Bill Good, DNR Technical Committee Member
Darryl Clark, USFWS Technical Committee Member
Rick Hartman, NMFS Technical Committee Member
Troy Hill, EPA, Technical Committee Member
Phil Pittman, DNR P&E Subcommittee Member
Martha Segura, USFWS P&E Subcommittee Member
Rachel Sweeney, NMFS P&E Subcommittee Member
Wes McQuiddy, EPA P&E Subcommittee Member
John Jurgensen, NRCS P&E Subcommittee Member
Karen Gautreaux, GOCA
Cynthia Duet, GOCA
Quin Kinler, Project Manager, NRCS
Ismail Merhi, Project Manager, LDNR
John Lopez, COE
Allen Bolotte, District Conservationist, NRCS
Cherie Lafleur, Design Engineer, NRCS
Randolph Joseph, Jr., ASTC/FO, NRCS
Marnie Winter, Jefferson Parish Environmental and Development Control Department

Information Required for "Cash-flow" Phase Two Authorization Request

Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d)
(Construction Unit 6)

December 1, 2003

Description of Phase One Project

The project as selected for Phase One consisted of 31,500 feet of shoreline protection along the left descending bank of Bayou Rigolettes. See Attachment A. The project was envisioned to consist of a foreshore rock dike with a lightweight aggregate core or concrete sheetpile. The final project design was to incorporate low-sill sections ("fish dips") and openings at historical natural channels to allow exchange of water and organisms. Subject to further refinement and concurrence between NRCS and NMFS, the low-sill sections were to consist of a 20-foot opening every 1,000 feet. The objective of the project was to reduce or eliminate shoreline erosion for the area referenced above. Secondary benefits would include maintenance, and increased extent, of submerged aquatic vegetation on the protected side of project features where such features form protected coves. The WVA predicted that the project would prevent the loss of 334 acres of intermediate and brackish marsh and produce 121 Average Annual Habitat Units. At the time of Phase One approval, the cost estimate was as follows:

Phase One Engineering & Design	1,448,045
Phase One Land Rights	21,279
Phase One S&A	700,084
Phase One Corps PM	1,755
Phase One Monitoring	20,645
Total Phase One	2,191,808
Phase Two Construction (includes contingency)	22,452,930
Phase Two S&I	59,826
Phase Two S&A	728,997
Phase Two Monitoring	88,735
Phase Two O&M	10,996,700
Phase Two Corps PM	22,417
Total Phase Two	34,349,605
Total Fully Funded Cost	36,541,413

Overview of Phase One Tasks, Process and Issues

Environmental Compliance Tasks.

The Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d) Environmental Assessment was distributed for interagency review on November 26, 2003. A Finding of No Significant Impact will likely be published in the Federal Register in January 2004.

Application for the Section 404 permit, CZM Consistency Determination, and Water Quality Certification is being reviewed by the Jefferson Parish Council and will be submitted to the Corps of Engineers, DNR-CMD, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, respectively, in December 2003.

The Ecological Review for Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Construction Unit 6, which is synonymous with Phase 4, was drafted in August 2003. The draft Ecological Review concluded that the project will likely achieve the desired ecological goal and recommended proceeding toward the 95% review.

Engineering Tasks.

A geotechnical investigation and report was completed by Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc. in March 2003. The investigation revealed that the substrate was sufficient to support a traditional rock revetment. Design surveys were substantially completed in August 2003, with supplemental surveys completed in October. As presented during Project Prioritization in May 2003 and at the 30% Design Review in October 2003, the selected shoreline protection technique is a traditional rock revetment.

To gain access for construction, a flotation channel will be dredged parallel to the shoreline and short segments of channel will also be dredged perpendicular to connect with sufficient depth toward the center of Bayou Rigolettes (Attachment B). Spoil placement options were considered. With a shoreline revetment, there is no opportunity to place spoil between the structure and existing shoreline. Interior open water areas were considered for marsh creation, but were determined to be either too small, too far from the dredging location, or impossible to access without considerable damage to existing marsh. Therefore, as presented at the 30% Design Review in October 2003, spoil from the access channels will placed in Bayou Rigolettes adjacent to the access channels and returned to the access channels upon completion of construction.

Regarding organism access openings, initially 9 existing man-made and/or natural channels were identified. Due to size, distribution, and interconnectivity of those channels, coordination with NMFS yielded final selection of 7 channels to remain open. Sill elevation of openings will be at 2 feet below average water level. The width of the openings will be approximately equal to the controlling width of the existing channel at a point 20 to 50 feet toward the marsh interior from the channel mouth.

Two pipelines have been identified and surveyed. One pipeline will not be crossed because a bulkhead has recently been constructed across the pipeline; the revetment will tie-into the existing bulkhead. For the second pipeline, the revetment will tie-into and supplement the existing rock protection.

Landrights Tasks.

Preliminary ownership reports and title reports have been completed. All surface landowners and pipeline companies have been identified and contacted.

Draft easements have been distributed to all landowners. No concerns have been identified. One pipeline right-of way agreement and pipeline letter of no objection are presently being drafted.

Description of the Phase Two Candidate Project

This Phase Two Authorization Request is for the entire **Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d)**, approximately 29,500 feet of shoreline protection located on the left descending bank of Bayou Rigolettes in Jefferson Parish. See Attachment B. The shoreline protection will consist of a rock revetment, with an elevation of 3.5 feet NAVD88, a top width of 4 feet, and side slopes of 3:1. The revetment will be constructed of COE R-400 (rock specification) and will be underlain with a geotextile cloth. Seven site-specific organism/drainage openings will be incorporated; the openings will have a sill elevation of 2 feet below average tide. The width of the openings will be approximately equal to the controlling width of the existing channel at a point 20 to 50 feet toward the marsh interior from the channel mouth. Approximately 36,500 feet of construction access channel, with a bottom elevation of –5.5 feet NAVD88 and bottom width of 80 feet, will be excavated. Excavated material will be deposited in Bayou Rigolettes adjacent to the access channels and returned to the access channels upon completion of construction.

The current cost estimate for Phase Two of BA-27d is as follows:

Construction (including contingency)	$14,640,625
S&A	$ 728,997
S&I	$ 59,826
Monitoring (Construction + 3yrs)	$ 0 (Monitoring = CRMS Wetland)
O&M (3 yrs)	$ 6,621,561
COE (Construction + 3 yrs)	$ 3,521
SubTotal (Construction + 3 yrs)	**$22,054,530**
Monitoring (Years 4 -20)	$ 0 (Monitoring = CRMS Wetland)
O&M (Years 4 -20)	$ 4,518,418
COE (Years 4 -20)	$ 18,886
Sub Total (Years 4 -20)	**$ 4,537,304**
Phase Two Total (Fully-funded)	**$26,591,834**
Original Phase Two Estimate	$34,349,605

Checklist of Phase Two Requirements

A. List of Project Goals and Objectives. The objective of the Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d) is to reduce or eliminate shoreline erosion for approximately 29,500 feet of shoreline along the left descending bank of Bayou Rigolettes.
B. Cost Sharing Agreement for Phase One. The Cost Sharing Agreement for Phase One of the Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d) was executed between DNR and NRCS on May 9, 2002.
C. Landrights Notification. LDNR has prepared a letter to the Chairman of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee reporting that substantial progress had been made regarding landrights acquisition, that no significant landrights acquisition problems are anticipated, and that DNR is confident that landrights will be finalized in a reasonable period of time after Phase Two Approval.
D. Favorable Preliminary Design Review. A favorable 30% Design Review was conducted on August 20, 2003, and a summary of that review was distributed to the Technical Committee on October 15, 2003.
E. Final Project Design Review. The final project design review (95%) will be scheduled for mid-January 2004, prior to the upcoming Task Force meeting.
F. Environmental Assessment. The Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d) Environmental Assessment was distributed for interagency review on November 26, 2003. A Finding of No Significant Impact will likely be published in the Federal Register in January 2004.
G. Findings of Ecological Review. The Ecological Review for Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Construction Unit 6, which is synonymous with Phase 4, was drafted in August 2003. The draft Ecological Review concluded that the project will likely achieve the desired ecological goal and recommended proceeding toward the 95% review.
H. Application / Public Notice for Permits. Application for the Section 404 permit, CZM Consistency Determination, and Water Quality Certification is being reviewed by the Jefferson Parish Council and will be submitted to the Corps of Engineers, DNR-CMD, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, respectively, in December 2003.
I. HTRW Assessment. NRCS procedures do not call for an HTRW assessment on this project.
J. Section 303e Approval. A Section 303e approval request was submitted to the Corps Real Estate Division on July 14, 2003. The Corps requested revisions to the easement language, and DNR and NRCS have now agreed to those revisions. Section 303e approval is expected to be granted in December 2003.
K. Overgrazing Determination. NRCS has determined that overgrazing is not, and is not anticipated to be, a problem in the project area.

L. Revised Cost Estimate for Phase Two Activities for the Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d).

Construction (including contingency)	$14,640,625
S&A	$ 728,997
S&I	$ 59,826
Monitoring (Construction + 3yrs)	$ 0 (Monitoring = CRMS Wetland)
O&M (3 yrs)	$ 6,621,561
COE (Construction + 3 yrs)	$ 3,521
SubTotal (Construction + 3 yrs)	**$22,054,530**
Monitoring (Years 4 -20)	$ 0 (Monitoring = CRMS Wetland)
O&M (Years 4 -20)	$ 4,518,418
COE (Years 4 -20)	$ 18,886
Sub Total (Years 4 -20)	**$ 4,537,304**
Phase Two Total (Fully-funded)	**$26,591,834**
Original Phase Two Estimate	$34,349,605

M. Estimate of Project Expenditures by State Fiscal Year.

See Attachment C

N. Revised Wetland Value Assessment. A revised Wetland Value Assessment will not be performed because no significant changes in project scope have occurred.

O. Agencies should submit a spreadsheet with categorical breakdown for Phase 2. See Attachment D

P. Draft O&M Plan. A draft O&M Plan will be developed for the 95% Review.

REQUEST FOR PHASE II APPROVAL

PROJECT: Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Poject Phase 4

PPL: 9 **Project No.** BA-27d

Agency: NRCS

Phase I Approval Date: Jan-02

Phase II Anticipated Approval I Jan-04

	Original Baseline Phase I (100% Level) 1/	Original Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 2/	Recommended Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 3/	Recommended Baseline Phase II Incr 1 (100% Level) 4/
Engr & Des	1,448,045.00			
Lands	21,279.00			
Fed S&A	323,443.00	336,801.00	336,801.00	336,801.00
LDNR S&A	376,641.00	392,196.00	392,196.00	392,196.00
COE Proj Mgmt	1,755.00			
Ph II Const Phase		1,117.00	1,117.00	1,117.00
Ph II Long Term		21,300.00	21,290.00	2,404.00
Const Contract		17,962,344.00	11,712,500.00	11,712,500.00
Const S&I		59,826.00	59,826.00	59,826.00
Contingency		4,490,586.00	2,928,125.00	2,928,125.00
Monitoring	20,645.00			
Ph II Const Phase 5/		3,235.00	-	-
Ph II Long Term 5/		85,500.00	-	-
O&M		10,996,700.00	11,139,979.00	6,621,561.00
Total	**2,191,808.00**	**34,349,605.00**	**26,591,834.00**	**22,054,530.00**
Total Project		**36,541,413.00**	**28,783,642.00**	24,246,338.00

Prepared By: Quin Kinler **Date Prepared:** 12/1/2003

NOTES:

1/ Original Baseline Phase I: The project estimate at the time Phase I is approved by Task Force.

2/ Original Baseline Phase II: The Phase II estimate reflected at the time Phase I is approved.

3/ Recommended Baseline Phase II (100%): The total Phase II estimate at the 100% level developed during Phase I, and presented at the time Phase II approval is requested.

4/ Recommended Baseline Phase II Increment 1 (100%): The funding estimate (at the 100% level) requested at the time Phase II approval is requested. Increment 1 estimate includes Phase II Lands, Phase II Fed S&A, Phase II LDNR S&A, Phase II Corps Proj Mgmt, Phase II Construction Costs, Phase II S&I, Phase II Contingency, Phase II Monitoring, 3 years of Long Term Monitoring, 3 years of Long Term O&M, and 3 years of Long Term Corps PM.

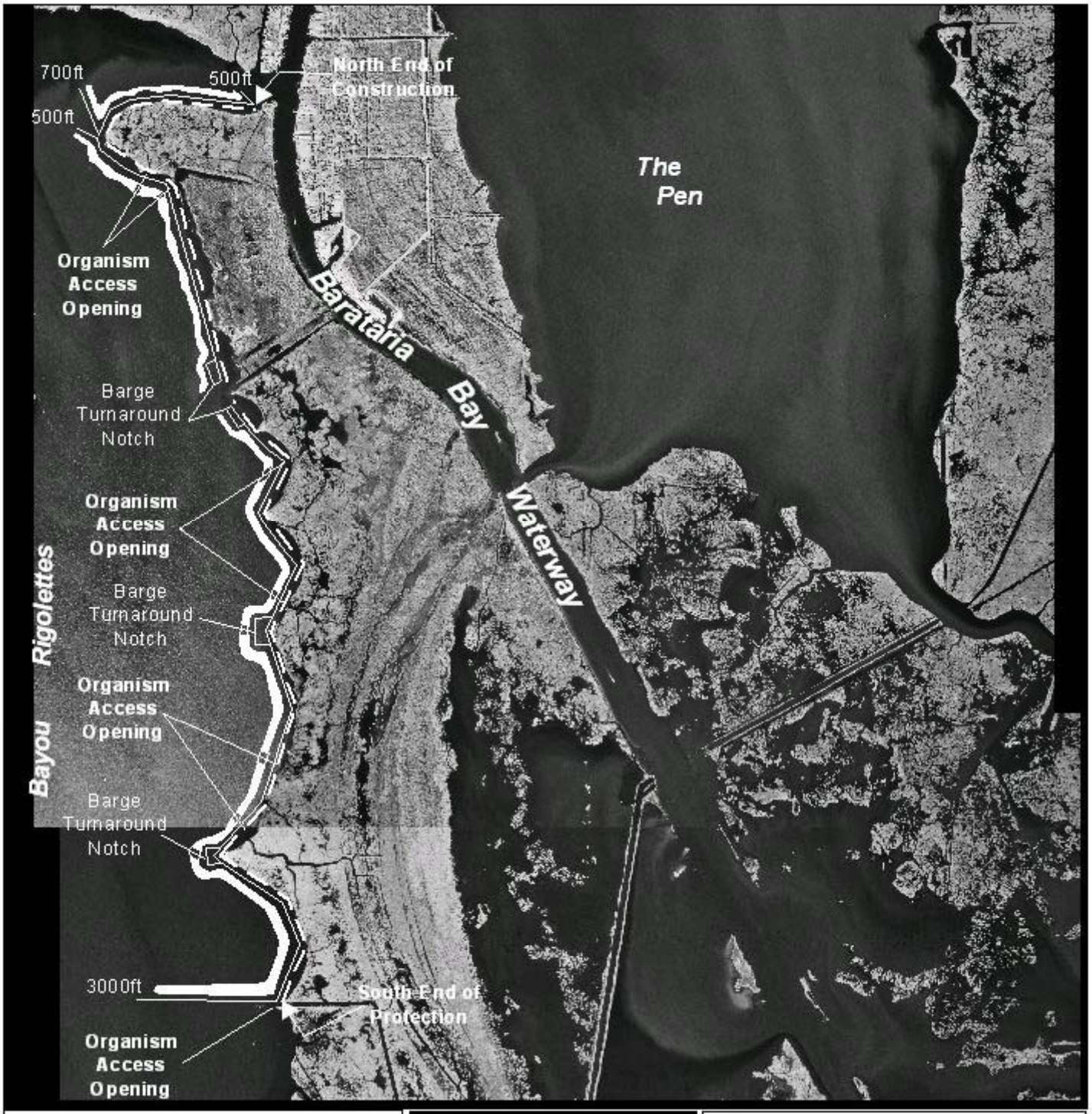
5/ Phase II Monitoring funds moved to CRMS Wetland.

Attachment C

Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d)
Phase Two Estimate by State Fiscal Year

Year	Construction (including Contingency)	S&I	Federal S&A	State S&A	COE Management	Monitoring*	Operation & Maintenance
2004	14,640,625	44,514	250,596	291,812	364	0	
2005		15,313	86,205	100,383	752	0	
2006					776	0	4,541.82
2007					801	0	4,687.16
2008					827	0	6,612,332.00
2009					853	0	4,991.94
2010					881	0	5,151.68
2011					909	0	5,316.54
2012					938	0	156,418.00
2013					968	0	5,662.24
2014					999	0	5,843.43
2015					1,031	0	6,030.42
2016					1,064	0	6,223.39
2017					1,098	0	6,422.54
2018					1,133	0	6,628.06
2019					1,169	0	4,263,839.14
2020					1,207	0	7,059.05
2021					1,245	0	7,284.93
2022					1,285	0	7,518.05
2023					1,326	0	7,758.63
2024					1,369	0	8,006.91
2025					1,412	0	8,263.13
TOTAL	14,640,625	59,827	336,801	392,196	22,407	0	11,139,979
GRAND TOTAL PHASE 2							26,591,835

* Monitoring funds moved to CRMS Wetland



Key to Features

- Shoreline Protection
- Access Channel
- Spoil Placement

Barataria Landbridge BA-27d
Shoreline Protection Phase 4
Construction Unit 6
Jefferson Parish, Louisiana

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

N
W E
S

Sheet 1 of 4

11/19/03

Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project Phase 4 (BA-27d)

Project Boundary

USGS science for a changing world

Louisiana

Project Location

N

0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangles

Map Date: March 10, 2002
Map ID: 2002-11-212

Revisions to the PPL 14 Planning Process

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act
Guidelines for Development of the 14th Priority Project List
Changes Recommended by the Technical Committee, 30 Sep 2003
and approved by the Task Force, 12 Nov 03
WG Suggested Revisions, 29 Oct 03
Suggested Revisions for RPT Meetings, 29 Oct 03

I. Development of Supporting Information

A. COE staff prepares spreadsheets indicating status of all restoration projects (CWPPRA PL 1-13; ~~Coast 2050 Feasibility~~ Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) Feasibility Study, Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities 1135, 204, 206; and State only projects). Also, indicate net acres at the end of 20 years for each CWPPRA project.

B. DNR/USGS staff prepares basin maps indicating:
1) Boundaries of the following projects types (PL 1-13; ~~Coast 2050~~ LCA Feasibility Study, COE 1135, 204, 206; and State only).
2) locations of completed projects,
3) projected land loss by 2050 with freshwater diversions at Caernarvon and Davis Pond plus PL 1-6) (Suhayda).

II. Identification of Areas of Need and Project Nominations

A. The four Regional Planning Teams meet, examine basin maps, discuss areas of need and Coast 2050 strategies, and choose no more than one project per basin, except that two projects may be selected from Terrebonne and Barataria basins because of the high loss rates in those basins. A total of up to 11 projects could be nominated. Selection of the projects nominated per basin will be by consensus, if possible. If voting is required, each officially designated parish representative in the basin will have one vote and each federal agency and DNR will have one vote.

B. The nominated projects will be indicated on a map and paired with Coast 2050 strategies. A lead Federal agency will be designated to assist LDNR and local governments in preparing preliminary project support information (fact sheet, maps, and potential designs and benefits). The Regional Planning Team Leaders transmit this information to the P&E subcommittee, Technical Committee and members of the Regional Planning Teams.

III. Preliminary Assessment of Nominated Projects

A. Agencies, parishes, landowners, and other individuals informally confer to develop projects. Nominated projects should be developed to support one or more Coast 2050 strategies. The goals of each project should be consistent with those of Coast 2050.

B. Each sponsor of a project proposed for nomination will prepare a brief Project description (no more than one page plus a map) that discusses possible features ~~and the Coast 2050 Criteria.~~

C. Engineering and Environmental Work Groups meets to review project features, discuss potential benefits, and estimate preliminary fully funded cost ranges for each project, based on engineering judgment.

D. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups apply Coast 2050 Criteria to each project to achieve a consensus description for each project.

DE. P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of cost estimates and other pertinent information and Coast 2050 Criteria descriptions and furnishes to Technical Committee and State Wetlands Authority (SWA).

IV. Selection of Phase 0 Candidate Projects

A. Technical Committee meets to consider the project costs, Coast 2050 Criteria, and potential wetland benefits of the nominees. Technical Committee will select six candidate projects for detailed assessment by the Environmental, Engineering, and Economic work groups.

B. Technical Committee assigns a Federal sponsor for each one project to each agency to develop preliminary Wetland Value Assessment data and engineering cost estimates for Phase 0 as described below.

V. Phase 0 Analysis of Candidate Projects

A. Sponsoring agency coordinates site visits for each project. Visit is vital so each agency can see the conditions in the area and estimate the project area boundary. Field trip participation should be limited to two representatives from each agency.

B. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups and academic advisors meet to refine project features and develop boundaries based on site visits.

C. Sponsoring agency develops Project Information Sheets on assigned projects, using formats developed by applicable work groups; prepares preliminary draft Wetland Value Assessment Project Information Sheet; and makes Phase 1 engineering and design cost estimates and Phase 2 construction cost estimates.

D. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups evaluate all projects using the WVA and reviews design and cost estimates. design/cost reviews; revisit goals in light of additional data; and determine risk/uncertainty and longevity/sustainability.

E. Engineering Work Group reviews and approves agency Phase 1 and 2 cost estimates.

F. Economics Work Group reviews cost estimates and develops annualized (fully funded) costs.

G. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups apply the Prioritization Criteria and develop prioritization scores for each candidate project.

H. Corps of Engineers staff prepares information package for Technical Committee and State Wetlands Authority. Packages consist of:

1) updated Project Information Sheets;

2) a matrix for each region that lists projects, fully funded cost, average annual cost, Wetland Value Assessment results in net acres and Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHU's), cost effectiveness (average annual cost/AAHU), and the prioritization score~~, risk/uncertainty, and longevity/sustainability~~;

3) qualitative discussion of supporting partnerships and public support; and

4) oyster lease impact areas delineated for the State's Restricted Area Map (this map should also be provided to DNR).

I. Technical Committee hosts two public hearings to present information from G above and allow public comment.

VI. Selection of 14th Priority Project List

A. Technical Committee meets and considers matrix, Project Information Sheets, and pubic comments. The Technical Committee will recommend up to four projects for selection to the 14th PPL.

B. The CWPPRA Task Force will review the TC recommendations and determine which projects will receive Phase 1 funding for the 14th PPL.

C. State Wetlands Authority reviews projects on the 14th Priority List and consider for Phase I approval and inclusion in the upcoming Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Plan.

14th Priority List Project Development Schedule

December 2003	Distribute public announcement of PPL14 process and schedule
January 28, 2004	Task Force Meeting
TBA, Feb 10-12, 2004	Region I, II, III, IV Planning Team meetings
February 16, 2004	President's Day Holiday
February 13 – March 3	Agencies prepare fact sheets for RPT nominated projects
February 28, 2004	Mardi Gras
March 9 & 10, 2004	Engineering/ Environmental work groups review project features, benefits & prepare preliminary cost estimates for nominated projects (DNR)
~~March 19, 2004~~	~~Env/Eng work groups jointly apply Coast 2050 criteria (DNR)~~
March 11, 2004	P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of nominated projects showing initial cost estimates ~~and Coast 2050 descriptions (narratives)~~ (DNR)
March 17, 2004	Tech Comm meets to select PPL14 candidate projects (NOD)
April 14, 2004	Spring Task Force meeting (Lafayette)
May/June	Candidate project site visits
June/July/August/September	Env/Eng work group project evaluations
July 14, 2004	Technical Committee meeting (Baton Rouge)
August 18, 2004	Task Force meeting (New Orleans)
September 15, 2004	Technical Committee meeting (Baton Rouge)
October 13, 2004	Task Force meeting (Baton Rouge) – announce public meetings
November 17, 2004	PPL14 Public Meeting (Abbeville)
November 18, 2004	PPL14 Public Meeting (New Orleans)
December 8, 2004	Technical Committee meeting (New Orleans)
January 26, 2005	Task Force meeting to select PPL 14

Clarification of the 30/95% Design Review Requirements

POTENTIAL CWPPRA SOP CHANGES/CLARIFICATIONS TO DISCUSS

1. 30%/95% Design Reviews

2. Technical Committee approval requirement for getting Phase 2 and construction authorization.

3. Requirement to have a successful 95% Design Review prior to the Technical Committee Meeting where approval is sought.

4. Include the Demo SOP in the CWPPRA SOP as an Appendix

5. Add the Prioritization Criteria as an Appendix

Results of the Engineering and Environmental Workgroups Evaluation of the Requirements in the SOP related to 30% and 95% Design Reviews

CWPPRA
Technical Committee Meeting
10 Dec 03

Presented by:
Chris Monnerjahn
Chairman, Engineering Workgroup

Task Background

At the Technical Committee Meeting on September 30, 2003, the TC directed the Engineering and Environmental Workgroups to do the following:

"To reach a consensus on what constitutes a successful 30% and 95% design review meeting. The workgroups then will recommend any changes needed in the SOP to clarify what is required to hold a 30% and 95% design review meeting."

The Workgroups' Response

- The Engineering and Environmental Workgroups and the Academic Advisory Group met on November 13, 2003 at DNR to accomplish the task.

The main issue:

When is it appropriate to hold a 30% design review meeting?

Opinion #1: After Preliminary Design (approx. 30%) is complete. (MAJORITY)

Opinion #2: When it is time to agree to Project Features. Design begins after the 30% design review meeting. (minority)

The Workgroups' Response

- The Workgroups reached consensus on what constitutes a successful 30% and 95% design review meeting. The workgroups then drafted recommended changes to the SOP to clarify the issue.

- The recommended changes/clarifications to the SOP have been provided in your binders for your consideration.

Comments and/or Questions?

STATE OF LOUISIANA
UNION JUSTICE CONFIDENCE

USGS
science for a changing world

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NOAA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

U.S.
FISH & WILDLIFE
SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NRCS
Natural Resources
Conservation Service

U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COASTAL RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT (CWPPRA)

PROJECT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL

Revision 7.0
September 30, 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND
RESTORATION ACT
(CWPPRA)

PROJECT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL

1. **APPLICABILITY**. This manual is applicable to all Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Agencies and the Local Sponsor in the management of the CWPPRA projects. These standard procedures shall not supersede nor invalidate any rules or regulations internal to any Agency.

2. **REFERENCES**.

a. Pub. L. 101-646, Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act, hereinafter referred to as the "CWPPRA."

b. Pub. L. 91-646, Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended by Title IV of Pub. L. 100-1 7, the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987.

3. **PURPOSE**. The purpose of the SOP is to establish standard procedures among the separate Agencies and the Local Sponsor in the managing of CWPPRA projects.

4. **DEFINITIONS**.

a. The definitions in Section 302 of the CWPPRA are incorporated herein by reference.

b. The term “Agencies” shall mean the agencies listed in the CWPPRA that makeup the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force, and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

c. The term “Federal Sponsor” shall mean the Federal Agency assigned to a CWPPRA project with responsibility to manage the implementation of the project.

d. The term “Local Sponsor” shall mean the State of Louisiana, as represented by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) unless otherwise specified.

e. The term “Technical Committee” shall mean the committee established by the Task Force to provide advice on biological, engineering, environmental, ecological, and other technical issues.

f. The term “Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee” shall mean the working level committee established by the Technical Committee to form and oversee special technical workgroups to assist in developing policies and processes, and recommend

procedures for formulating plans and projects to accomplish the goals and mandates of CWPPRA.

g. The term "Priority Project List (PPL)" shall mean the annual list of projects submitted by the Task Force to Congress in accordance with Sec. 303.(a) of the CWPPRA.

h. The term "total project cost" shall mean all Federal and non-Federal costs directly related to the implementation of the project, which may include but are not limited to engineering and design costs; lands, easements, servitudes, and rights-of-way costs; project construction costs; construction management costs; relocation costs; pre-construction, construction, and post-construction monitoring costs; operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation (OMRR&R) costs; supervision and administration costs; environmental compliance (cultural resources, NEPA, and HTRW); and other costs as otherwise provided for in the Cost Sharing Agreement.

i. The term "total project expenditures" shall mean the sum of all Federal expenditures for the project and all non-Federal expenditures for which the Federal Sponsor has granted credit.

j. The term "Cost Sharing Agreement" shall mean any Agency agreement entered into by the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor for engineering and design, real estate activities, construction, monitoring, and OMRR&R of a project in accordance with Sec. 303. (f) of the CWPPRA.

k. The term "life of the project" shall mean 20 years from completion of construction of the project or functional portion of the project, unless otherwise stated in the Cost Sharing Agreement for the project.

l. The term "project funding categories" shall mean the six distinct project-funding areas:

(1) Engineering and Design (E&D)
(2) Real Estate
(3) Construction
(4) Monitoring
(5) Operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation (OMRR&R)
(6) Corps of Engineers Program Management Costs

For cash flow-managed projects (See paragraph 4.r. below), the Real Estate and Monitoring project funding categories will be further sub-categorized as Phase 1 and Phase 2. E&D will be categorized as Phase 1 only while Construction and OMRR&R will be categorized as Phase 2 only.

m. The term "escrow account" shall mean the bank account established by the Local

Sponsor in accordance with the CWPPRA Escrow Agreement executed between the Corps of Engineers, the Local Sponsor, and the financial institution selected by the Local Sponsor to act as custodian for the escrow account.

n. The term "overgrazing" shall mean allowing cattle and other grazing animals to forage within the project lands, easements or rights-of-way to the detriment of the wetlands.

o. The term "State fiscal year" shall mean one fiscal year of the State of Louisiana, beginning July 1 and ending June 30 of the following calendar year.

p. The term "Federal fiscal year" shall mean one fiscal year of the Government, beginning October 1 and ending September 30 of the following calendar year.

q. The term "Conservation Plan" shall mean the Coastal Wetlands Conservation Plan prepared by the State of Louisiana in accordance with Section 304 of the CWPPRA.

r. The term "cash flow-managed projects" shall mean those projects which are approved and funded in two phases during the Task Force quarterly meetings. Phase 1 will generally mean those pre-construction activities as defined in paragraph 4.s. below and Phase 2 will generally mean those activities approved by the Task Force as defined in paragraph 4.t. below. While the two phases will be fully funded when approved by the Task Force, long term Phase 2 OMRR&R and post-construction monitoring funds will only be made available on a yearly basis (to be approved at January Task Force meetings) in three year increments. Cash flow-managed projects are generally those projects approved on PPLs 9 and later.

s. The term "Phase 1" shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of environmental benefits, any necessary hydrologic data collection and analysis, Pre-construction Biological Monitoring, Monitoring Plan Development, and Engineering and Design, and draft OMRR&R Plan (named the Projects Operations and Schedule Manual when referring to Corps projects) Development. Engineering and Design includes Engineering, Design, environmental compliance (cultural resources, NEPA, HTRW) and permitting, Project Management, and Real Estate requirements up to, but not including, the purchase of real estate.

t. The term "Phase 2" shall mean Construction (including Project Management, Contract Management, and Construction Supervision & Inspection), Post-construction Biological Monitoring (to include construction phase biological monitoring), OMRR&R, and the Purchase of Real Estate.

u. The term "quarterly meetings" shall mean the quarterly meetings at which the Task Force approves planning and construction funding levels for the program.

5. **GENERAL**.

a. RESPONSIBILITIES

(1) Federal Sponsor:

(a) Assure that funds spent on a project are spent in accordance with the project's Cost Sharing Agreement and the CWPPRA.

(b) Perform any audits of the Local Sponsor's credits for the project as required by the project's Cost Sharing Agreement and the individual agency's regulations.

(c) No later than September 30 of each year, the Federal Sponsor shall provide the Local Sponsor with an annual statement of prior State fiscal year expenditures in a format agreeable to the Local and Federal Sponsor.

(d) Each quarter, Federal Sponsors will review funds within each approved project under their purview and determine whether funds may be returned to the Task Force. Funds may be returned to the Task Force by the simple deobligation process covered in paragraph 6.p. below. Federal Sponsors should provide the status of potential obligations in the "Remarks" section of the program summary database.

(2) Local Sponsor:

(a) Provide the necessary funds as required by the project's Cost Sharing Agreement.

(b) Perform any work-in-kind required by the Cost Sharing Agreement.

(c) Furnish the Federal Sponsor with the documentation required to support any work-in-kind credit requests.

(d) Unless otherwise specified, all correspondence to the Local Sponsor shall be addressed to:

Administrator
Coastal Restoration Division
Louisiana Department of Natural Resource
P.O. Box 44027
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4027

(3) Corps of Engineers (as funds administrator):

(a) For the purposes of funds control, and at the request of the Task Force, the Corps of Engineers will act as bookkeeper, administrator, and disburser of all Federal and non-Federal funds. All correspondence from the Agencies and the Local Sponsor to the Corps of Engineers regarding funding requests and the status of funding requests shall be addressed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEMVN-PM-C
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

(b) Use Corps of Engineers financial accounting procedures.

(c) Manage the funds for the project.

(d) Disburse project funds as requested by the Federal Sponsor.

(e) Regularly report to the Agencies and the Local Sponsor on the status of the project accounts.

(f) By August 31 of each year, furnish each Federal Sponsor a report on project expenditures for the last State fiscal year.

(g) By the 20th of the month following the end of a fiscal quarter, the Corps of Engineers will prepare and furnish all the Agencies and the Local Sponsor a report on the status of funding and cost sharing for each of their projects. The most current version of this report will be posted by the Corps on the internet. *(www.lacoast.gov)*

(h) Provide program management duties, e.g. PPL reports, minutes of meetings, distribution of planning documents, etc.

b. COST SHARING

(1) Pre-State Conservation Plan: As provided in Section 303(f) of the CWPPRA, prior to the approval of the State Conservation Plan, the Federal share of the total project cost shall be 75% and the non-Federal share of the total project cost shall be 25%.

(2) Post-State Conservation Plan[1]

[1]Formally approved at the January 16, 1998 Task Force meeting.

(a) General: As provided for the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation Plan, effective December 1, 1997, cost sharing is revised for unexpended funds from 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal to 85% Federal and 15% non-Federal for all future Priority List projects and Priority Lists 1 through 4 projects. For Priority Lists 5 and 6 projects, cost sharing is reduced from 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal to 90% Federal and 10% non-Federal.

(b) Definitions[2]: The term "total project expenditures", as stated in paragraph 4.i., shall mean the sum of all Federal expenditures for the project and all non-Federal expenditures for which the Federal Sponsor has granted credit. An expenditure is a disbursement of funds for charges incurred for goods and services.

(c) Implementation: All expenditures that were incurred through November 30, 1997 (invoices that were submitted to CEMVN-PM-C and all funds disbursed by check), will be considered part of the original cost sharing percentages. These expenditures will be subtracted from the approved current estimates and cost shared at 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal. The remaining funds expended beginning December 1, 1997 will be considered part of the revised cost sharing provisions.

(d) Cost Sharing Agreements: Future cost sharing agreements will reflect the new cost sharing percentages and existing cost sharing agreements will be amended to reflect the new cost sharing percentages.

(e) Database: As stated in paragraph 5.a.(3)(a), the Corps of Engineers will act as bookkeeper, administrator, and disburser of all Federal and non-Federal funds. A database is in place at present to record all estimates, obligations, and expenditures. Federal Sponsors will keep the Corps of Engineers informed of current approved project estimates and schedules in order to have the latest information in the database.

c. MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS

(1) Escrow Agreement:

(a) There will be only one escrow account established for all CWPPRA projects. The Corps, the Local Sponsor and the financial institution chosen by the Local Sponsor shall execute the basic escrow account agreement in a form agreeable to all parties.

[2]At the December 16, 1997 Joint Meeting of the P&E Subcommittee and the Technical Committee the term "expenditure" was further clarified as being on a cash basis. For example, work-in-kind (WIK) and costs paid would be considered expenditures. However, costs submitted would not be considered an expenditure.

(b) Within the one escrow account, the Corps of Engineers shall maintain separate sub-accounts (one for each project covered by the escrow agreement) and allocate project funds only to the extent that funds are available in the project sub-account. Non-government escrow shall be in the project sub-accounts.

(c) Upon execution of the Escrow Agreement, and in accordance with the Cost Sharing Agreement, the Local Sponsor shall deposit in the escrow account established for the CWPPRA projects an amount equal to the difference between 25 percent (15 percent after the Conservation Plan is approved except 5th and 6th list projects for which the percentage is 10 percent) of the total project expenditures to date and the amount of expenditures by the Local Sponsor for which the Federal Sponsor has granted credit. In addition, the Local Sponsor shall also deposit 25 percent (15 percent after the Conservation Plan is approved except 5th and 6th list projects for which the percentage is 10 percent) of the estimated total project costs for the remainder of the State fiscal year less any anticipated expenditures by the Local Sponsor.

(d) In accordance with Section 303(f)(3) of the CWPPRA the Local Sponsor shall provide a minimum of 5% of the total project cost in cash. In order to properly account for these funds, the Local Sponsor shall deposit into the escrow account at least 5% of the estimated expenditures for the following State fiscal year. For projects where the Local Sponsor is the construction agency, the 5% escrow requirement is waived. However, in those cases, the Local Sponsor must provide a letter indicating that they are the primary construction agency and that the required cash contribution is provided through their award and management of the construction contract.

(2) Work-in-Kind: Credit for work-in-kind or other activities performed by the Local Sponsor will be granted as follows:

(a) By September 1 of each year the Local Sponsor shall submit to the Federal Sponsor a statement of expenditures in a format agreeable to the Federal Sponsor. It is the Federal Sponsor's responsibility to assure that the amount of credit given is in accordance with the Cost Sharing Agreement and applicable regulations and that audits, if required, are performed.

(b) After review and approval, but no later than 90 days after receipt of the statement of expenditures from the Local Sponsor, the Federal Sponsor shall forward to the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, ATTN.: CEMVN-PM-C, with copy to the Local Sponsor, a request that credit be given the Local Sponsor for the work performed. This statement shall indicate the amount of

credit to be granted to the Local Sponsor, by project funding category, and the period covered.

(c) The Corps of Engineers will give credit to the Local Sponsor on the project in the amount stated and inform both the Local Sponsor and the Federal Sponsor of the current status of funding and cost sharing for the project.

(3) Funding Adjustments: Whenever the Corps of Engineers determines that:

(a) The Local Sponsor's share of the project cost to date, including cash and credits granted under paragraph 5.c.(2)(b), is less than the required 25 percent (15 percent after the Conservation Plan is approved except 5th and 6th list projects for which the percentage is 10 percent) of the total project cost to date; and/or

(b) The Local Sponsor has paid, in cash, less than the required 5 percent of the total project cost to date; and

(c) Insufficient funds for the project are on deposit in the escrow account to cover the deficit; then the Corps of Engineers will inform both the Local Sponsor and the Federal Sponsor of the deficiency and request that the Local Sponsor deposit into the escrow account the necessary funds or, if allowed, furnish the Federal Sponsor sufficient proof of additional credits in the amount necessary to maintain the required cost sharing percentage.

(4) Transfer of Funds Between Projects: The Local Sponsor may request the transfer of excess project funds in its escrow account from one project to another provided that:

(a) The Corps of Engineers agrees, in writing, that the funds are excess to the project; and,

(b) The Federal Sponsor of the project losing the funds agrees, in writing, to release the funds; and,

(c) The Federal Sponsor of the project gaining the funds agrees, in writing, to the funds transfer.

d. PROJECT COST LIMITS

(1) Non-Cash Flow Projects: The total project cost may exceed the original PPL estimate by 25% without the Federal Sponsor formally requesting a cost increase from the Task Force. If the estimated total project cost exceeds the original PPL estimate by more than 25%, the Federal Sponsor, with the

concurrence of the Local Sponsor, may request approval from the Task Force for additional funds as indicated in paragraph 6.e.(2). If the increase is approved by the Task Force, no additional increase shall be allowed without the explicit approval of the Task Force. An increase of more than 25% for an individual funding category, except for monitoring as stated in 5.d(3), does not require specific Task Force approval unless the increase causes the total project cost to exceed the original PPL estimate by more than 25%.

(2) Cash-Flow Projects:

a. PHASE 1: The Phase 1 cost may exceed the original PPL Phase 1 estimate by 25% without the Federal Sponsor formally requesting a cost increase from the Task Force. If the estimated total cost of Phase 1 exceeds the original PPL Phase 1 estimate by more than 25%, the Federal Sponsor, with the concurrence of the Local Sponsor, may request approval from the Task Force for additional Phase 1 funds as indicated in paragraph 6.e.(2). If the increase is approved by the Task Force, no additional increase shall be allowed without the explicit approval of the Task Force. An increase of more than 25% for an individual funding category, except for monitoring as stated in 5.d(3), does not require specific Task Force approval unless the increase causes the total project cost to exceed the original PPL estimate by more than 25%.

b. PHASE 2: The Phase 2 cost may exceed the Phase 2 estimate developed during Phase 1 by 25% without the Federal Sponsor formally requesting a cost increase from the Task Force. If the estimated total cost of Phase 2 exceeds the Phase 2 estimate developed during Phase 1 by more than 25%, the Federal Sponsor, with the concurrence of the Local Sponsor, may request approval from the Task Force for additional Phase 2 funds as indicated in paragraph 6.e.(2). If the increase is approved by the Task Force, no additional increase shall be allowed without the explicit approval of the Task Force. An increase of more than 25% for an individual funding category, except for monitoring as stated in 5.d(3), does not require specific Task Force approval unless the increase causes the total project cost to exceed the original PPL estimate by more than 25%.

(3) Exceptions: For those monitoring and OMRR&R category estimates that were formally reviewed and approved by the Task Force on 23Jul98 and 20Jan99, respectively, increases in those categories above the approved estimates shall be requested by the Federal Sponsor, with the concurrence of the Local Sponsor, from the Task Force. These requests may occur at any Task Force meeting. Additionally, the monitoring category is capped for all projects at 100% of the original estimate approved by the Task Force and may not exceed

this amount without the explicit approval of the Task Force.

e. DISPUTES: Neither the Corps of Engineers, as funds administrator, nor any Federal Sponsor shall be a party to any disputes that may arise between another Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor under a project Cost Sharing Agreement.

6. **PROCEDURES.**

a. PROJECT PLANNING AND SELECTION:

(1) CWPPRA Committees: Following is a description of duties of the primary organizations formed under CWPPRA to manage the program:

(a) Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force: Typically referred to as the "Task Force" (TF), it is comprised of one member each, respectively, from five Federal Agencies and the State of Louisiana. The Federal Agencies of CWPPRA include: the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) of the Department of Interior, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Marine Fisheries Service of the Department of Commerce (USDC), the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The Governor's Office of the State of Louisiana represents the state on the TF. The TF provides guidance and direction to subordinate organizations of the program through the Technical Committee (TC), which reports to the TF. The TF is charged by the Act to make final decisions concerning issues, policies, and procedures necessary to execute the Program and its projects. The TF makes directives for action to the TC, and the TF makes decisions in consideration of TC recommendations. The District Commander of the USACE, New Orleans District (NOD), is the Chairman of the TF. The TF Chairman leads the TF and sets the agenda for action of the TF to execute the Program and projects. At the direction of the Chairman of the TF, the NOD: (1) provides administration, management, and oversight of the Planning and Construction Programs, and acts as accountant, budgeter, administrator, and disburser of all Federal and non-Federal funds under the Act, (2) acts as the official manager of financial data and most information relating to the CWPPRA Program and projects.

The State of Louisiana is a full voting member of the Task Force except for selection of the Priority Project List [Section 303(a)(2) of the CWPPRA], as stipulated in President Bush's November 29, 1990, signing statement of the CWPPRA. In addition, the State of Louisiana may not serve as a "lead" Task Force member for design and construction of wetlands projects on the priority project list.

(b) Technical Committee: The Technical Committee (TC) is established by the TF to provide advice and recommendations for execution of the Program and projects from a number of technical perspectives, which include: engineering, environmental, economic, real estate, construction, operation and maintenance, and monitoring. The TC provides guidance and direction to subordinate organizations of the program through the Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee (P&E), which reports to the TC. The TC is charged by the TF to consider and shape decisions and proposed actions of the P&E, regarding its position on issues, policy, and procedures towards execution of the Program and projects. The TC makes directives for action to the P&E, and the TC makes decisions in consideration of P&E recommendations. The TC approves changes to this SOP. In the event that such changes would reflect policy-level changes, then these changes must first be approved by the Task Force. Additionally, the TC appoints the chairs of the various workgroups that report to the TC. The State of Louisiana is represented on the TC by DNR. The Chair's seat of the TC resides with the USACE, NOD. The TC Chairman leads the TC and sets the agenda for action of the TC to make recommendations to the TF for executing the Program and projects. At the direction of the Chairman of the TF, the Chairman of the TC guides the management and administrative work charged to the TF Chairman.

(c) Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee: The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee (P&E) is the working level committee established by the TC to form and oversee special technical workgroups to assist in developing policies and processes, and recommend procedures for formulating plans and projects to accomplish the goals and mandates of CWPPRA. The seat of the Chairman of the P&E resides with the USACE, NOD. The P&E Chairman leads the P&E and sets the agenda for action of the P&E to make recommendations to the TC for executing the Program and projects. At the direction of the Chairman of the TC, the Chairman of the P&E executes the management and administrative work directives of the TC and TF Chairs.

(d) Environmental Workgroup: The Environmental Workgroup (EnvWG), under the guidance and direction of the P&E, reviews candidate projects to: (1) suggest any recommended measures and features that should be considered during engineering and design for the achievement and/or enhancement of wetland benefits, and (2) determine the estimated annualized wetland benefits (Average Annual Habitat Units) of those projects.

(e) Engineering Workgroup: The Engineering Workgroup (EngWG), under the guidance and direction of the P&E, provides engineering

standards, quality control/assurance, and support, for the review and comment of the cost estimates for: engineering, environmental compliance (cultural resources, NEPA, and HTRW), economic, real estate, construction, construction supervision and inspection, project management, operation and maintenance, and monitoring, of candidate and demonstration projects considered for development, selection, and funding under the Act.

(f) Economic Workgroup: The Economic Workgroup (EcoWG), under the guidance and direction of the P&E, reviews and evaluates candidate projects that have been completely developed, for the purpose of assigning the fully funded first cost of projects, based on the estimated 20-year stream of project costs.

(2) Quarterly Meetings: Each year the Task Force shall have four meetings (referred to below as the quarterly meetings) at which a Phase 2 construction funding list is selected. At the January quarterly meeting, the Task Force will also select demonstration projects, projects for Phase 1 funding on the annual priority project list, and will approve monitoring and O&M funding as recommended by the Technical Committee. Demonstration projects are considered non-cash-flow managed projects. The Task Force will review the process each year to determine the effect on the overall program and may decide at any time to modify the process. The current process for selection of the annual priority list projects is included as Appendix A. Beginning with PPL13, and then on all subsequent priority lists, candidate projects will be assigned a Prioritization Criteria ranking score as part of the Phase 0 analysis. The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee will provide a quarterly report on the total funds associated with all phases of approved projects versus the estimated total funding available through the current authorization and estimate at what point these two values would be approximately equal.

(3) Planning:

(a) Each year, no more than $5.0 million will be set aside from out of the total available annual program allocation for planning, in accordance with Section 306 (a) (1) of PL 101-646. These funds shall remain available for budgeting and reprogramming during any fiscal year after the funds are set aside. At the quarterly meetings, the Task Force shall review unallocated funds from previous years and may program some or all of these funds in addition to the $5.0 million for the current year. Nevertheless, in no case will more than $5.0 million be set aside annually for planning from the total available annual program allocation. Generally, the planning process shall include the nomination, development and evaluation of proposed projects by the Engineering, Environmental and Economic workgroups.

(b) During the evaluation of Priority Project List Candidate projects, Federal Sponsors will provide cost estimates and spending schedules for each project to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee prior to project ranking[3]. Spending schedules will be developed through the end of the project life. The cost estimates and schedules will be comprised of the following subcategories:

Subcategory A. **Phase 1 Engineering and Design** (includes Engineering and Design, Phase 1 Real Estate Requirements[4], environmental compliance (cultural resources, NEPA compliance and HTRW) and Permitting, Project Management, and draft OMRR&R Plan (named the Projects Operations and Schedule Manual when referring to Corps projects) Development)

Subcategory B. **Phase 1 Pre-construction Biological Monitoring** (includes Monitoring Plan Development)

Subcategory C. **Phase 2 Construction** (includes Phase 2 Real Estate Requirements (including oyster leases), Project Management, Contract Management, and Construction Supervision and Inspection)

Subcategory D. **Phase 2 Post-Construction Biological Monitoring** (includes Construction-Phase Biological Monitoring)

Subcategory E. **Phase 2 OMRR&R**

(c) The Engineering Work Group and Monitoring Work Group will review these estimates for consistency among projects. The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee will provide a table of these subcategories along with the results of the Environmental Work Group's evaluation to the Technical Committee.

(d) The Technical Committee will review these results along with the project budget requirements and schedules. The Technical Committee will determine a recommended cutoff point, based on project cost effectiveness and other criteria to recommend to the Task Force.

(4) Annual Priority List:

3 Note the previously designated complex projects from PPL 9 are considered candidate projects and may be evaluated in accordance with this paragraph and paragraphs 6.a.(3)(c) and (d). Complex projects would then compete at a quarterly budgeting meeting for Phase 1 authorization.

4 Includes Real Estate requirements up to but not including the purchase of Real Estate.

(a) The CWPPRA project approval and budgeting process is to be accomplished in two phases as described below. Approval and budgeting of Phase 1 would not guarantee approval and budgeting of Phase 2, which would involve competition among successful projects from Phase 1. At the January quarterly meeting, the Task Force will select projects for Phase 1 funding on the annual Priority Project List. In the first year, projects will generally receive budget approval for Subcategories A and B, even though these activities may take 2 to 3 years. During the second and third year the project may not need additional funding (unless Subcategories A and B require additional funds or the project is ready to begin construction). Priority Project Lists for subsequent years will also follow this procedure.

(b) The Corps will provide a status report and update at each Task Force meeting on the six funding subcategories to include expenditures, obligations, and disbursements.

b. COST SHARING AGREEMENTS:

(1) For non-cash flow-managed projects, prior to requesting permission from the Task Force to proceed with construction of the project, the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor shall negotiate and execute the necessary Cost Sharing Agreement using their own internal procedures. For cash flow-managed projects, a Cost Sharing Agreement will be negotiated and executed as soon as possible after Phase 1 approval by the Task Force.

(2) Normal Cost Sharing Agreement processing is as follows:

(a) Federal Sponsor, if applicable, forwards draft Cost Sharing Agreement to the Local Sponsor. For cooperative agreements, the Local Sponsor will initiate the agreement.

(b) After review and negotiations, the Local Sponsor, upon approval by the State of Louisiana Office of Contractual Review, signs the Cost Sharing Agreement and forwards document(s) to the Federal Sponsor.

(c) The Federal Sponsor signs and executes the document(s) and forwards copies to the Local Sponsor and forwards a copy to the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, ATTN: CEMVN-PM-C, for Task Force records and to aid in managing funds disbursement.

c. ESCROW ACCOUNT AMENDMENT:

(1) Once the Cost Sharing Agreement is executed, the Federal Sponsor shall

request from the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District ATTN: CEMVN-PM-C, that an amendment to the escrow agreement be executed.

(2) The Corps of Engineers shall forward to the Local Sponsor, in triplicate, the amendment for the escrow agreement.

(3) After execution by the Local Sponsor and the financial institution, the Local Sponsor shall forward all copies of the amendment to the Corps of Engineers.

(4) After execution by the Corps of Engineers of the escrow agreement amendment, an original copy of each shall be forwarded to the Local Sponsor and the financial institution. A copy of the Escrow Agreement Amendment shall be forwarded to the appropriate Federal Sponsor.

(5) The escrow agreement shall be amended, as required, to incorporate new projects as Cost Sharing Agreements are executed.

(6) The Local Sponsor is required to furnish an estimate of work-in-kind credits for the next State fiscal year of projects for which the corresponding Federal Sponsor or Corps has requested such information.

d. PRE-CONSTRUCTION FUNDS DISBURSEMENT:

(1) Upon approval of a Priority List by the Task Force, the Corps of Engineers will set up the necessary accounts for each project-funding category or subcategory and reserve funds in the amount estimated in the Priority List report.

(2) Within 30 days after receipt of a request for initial funds from the Federal Sponsor, the Corps of Engineers will prepare a Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (DD Form 448), hereinafter referred to as MIPR, obligating funds up to a maximum of 85% of the PPL estimate for those pre-construction activities for which funds are being requested (except 5th and 6th list projects, where the maximum is 90%), to each Federal Sponsor in accordance with their request and subject to the availability of funds.

e. PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN:

(1) Workplan Review : Federal and State Sponsors shall develop a plan of work for accomplishing Phase 1. This plan shall include, but not be limited to: a detailed task list, time line with specific milestones, and budget which breaks out specific tasks such as geo-technical evaluations, hydrological investigations, modeling, environmental compliance (cultural resources, NEPA, and HTRW), Ecological Review (See Appendix B), surveying, ~~and so forth~~ and other items deemed necessary to justify the proposed project features. The plans shall be developed within 3 months

of Phase 1 approval and shall be reviewed by the P&E Subcommittee.

(2) 30% Design Review: In order to resolve problems and anticipate cost growth at the earliest possible point, a 30% Design Reviews shall be performed upon completion of ~~at the following milestone point:~~ a Preliminary Design Report. The Preliminary Design Report shall include: 1) ~~Upon completion of~~ Recommended project features, 2) Engineering and Design surveys, 3) Engineering and Design Geotechnical Investigation (borings, testing results, and analysis), 4) Draft Modeling Report (if applicable), 5) ~~the~~ Draft Ecological Review for cash flow-managed projects (See Appendix B), 6) ~~and~~ Land Ownership Investigation, 7) Preliminary Cultural Resources Assessment, 8) Revised project construction cost estimates based on the current preliminary design, ~~and based on preliminary designs,~~ 9) Description of changes from Phase 0 approval, 10) Map prepared by the Local Sponsor and provided to the Federal Sponsor indicating any oyster leases potentially impacted by the proposed project and a data sheet listing: lease number, lease acreage, lessee name, and other pertinent data. The Federal Sponsor shall ~~prepare a revised project cost estimate and~~ hold a "30% Design Review Conference" with the Local Sponsor to obtain their concurrence to continue ~~proceed~~ with design. However, if the Local Sponsor has responsibility for the design of the project, then ~~the Local Sponsor shall prepare a revised project cost estimate and~~ both Local and Federal Sponsors shall hold a "30% Design Review Conference" to obtain concurrence to continue ~~proceed~~ with design. The other Agencies shall be notified by the Federal Sponsor at least four weeks prior of the date, time and place of the conference and invited to attend. Any supporting data shall be forwarded to the other Agencies for their review, with receipt two weeks prior to the conference. Invitations and supporting data shall be sent to agency representatives of the Technical Committee, Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, Project Manager of the Local Sponsor and the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities. ~~In addition, prior to the 30% design review, the Local Sponsor shall prepare and provide to the Federal Sponsor, a map indicating any oyster leases potentially impacted by the proposed project and prepare data sheet listing, by lease number: acreage, lessee, and other pertinent data.~~

This review will verify the viability of the project and whether or not the Federal and Local Sponsors agree to continue ~~proceed~~ with the project. This review must indicate the project is viable before there are expenditures of additional Phase 1 funds.

After the conference, the Federal Sponsor shall forward a letter (or e-mail) to the Technical Committee with a copy to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee along with the revised estimate, a description of project revisions from the previously authorized project, and a ~~statement~~ letter of concurrence from the Local Sponsor, informing them of the agreement to continue ~~proceed~~ with the project. The Technical Committee may make a recommendation on whether or not to continue ~~proceed~~ with the project.

Technical Committee
c/o U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
ATTN: CEMVN-PM-C
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee
c/o U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
ATTN: CEMVN-PM-C
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

For cash flow-managed projects, if the estimate indicates that the Phase 1 cost will exceed 125% of the original approved amount, the Federal Sponsor may, with local sponsor concurrence, request approval from the Task Force for additional funds to continue at a quarterly meeting. For non-cash flow-managed projects, if the revised estimate indicates that the total project cost will exceed 125% of the original PPL estimate, the Federal Sponsor shall request approval from the Task Force, at any Task Force meeting, to continue ~~proceed~~ with the project.

In some cases, the Task Force may require an additional formal review, involving all the Agencies, of the project design at an intermediate level to ensure that optimum benefits to wetlands and associated fish and wildlife resources are achieved. In those cases the Federal Sponsor shall be responsible for coordinating the review with the other Agencies and the Local Sponsor.

(3) Changes in Project Scope: If a project undergoes a major change in scope or a change in scope resulting in a variance of 25 percent from the original approved design, in either: (1) the total project cost, (2) the number of acres benefited, or (3) the ratio of the total project cost to the number of acres benefited, the Federal or Local Sponsor will submit a report to the Technical Committee explaining the reason(s) for the scope change, the impact on cost and benefits, and a statement from the Local Sponsor endorsing the change. The Technical Committee will review the report and recommend to the Task Force approval or rejection of the change.

f. PRE-CONSTRUCTION MONITORING: For monitoring plan development and by the preliminary 30% design review, the Federal Sponsor shall provide at a minimum project-specific goals and strategies that the Local Sponsor will use to prepare a monitoring plan and a budget. The monitoring plan and budget must be submitted to the Technical Committee for review and subsequent approval by the Task Force.

g. REAL ESTATE:

(1) General

(a) Each Federal or Local Sponsor shall follow the real estate procedures in use by that agency.

(b) During preliminary engineering and design, the Federal or Local Sponsor shall identify all real estate potentially impacted by the project.

(c) After determining the property rights required, the Federal or Local Sponsor shall obtain an estimated value of the real estate interest to determine the value of the lands, easements, and rights-of-way to be acquired.

(d) For cash flow-managed projects, real estate purchase will take place only during Phase 2.

(e) For cash flow-managed projects, between the 30% and 95% design reviews, the Local Sponsor will have any potentially impacted oyster leases appraised and will forward to the Federal Sponsor the projected acquisition costs, as well as the supporting documentation for these cost projections except for legally proprietary information. In the case of non-cash-flow projects, this information will be provided prior to soliciting construction approval from the Task Force.

(2) Section 303(e) Approval:

(a) In accordance with Section 303(e) of the CWPPRA, the Federal Sponsor shall, prior to acquiring any lands, easements or rights-of way for a CWPPRA project, obtain Secretary of the Army, or his designee, approval that the "project is subject to such terms and conditions as necessary to ensure that the wetlands restored, enhanced or managed through that project will be administered for the long-term conservation of such lands and waters and dependent fish and wildlife populations."

(b) In order to obtain approval in accordance with paragraph 6.g.(2)(a), the Federal Sponsor shall furnish the Corps of Engineers the following information before requesting approval to proceed to construction for non-cash flow-managed projects or before requesting approval to proceed with Phase 2 for cash flow-managed projects:

i. Plan showing project limits and type of land rights required.

ii. Language of land rights.

iii. Certification that land acquisition is in accordance with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.

iv. Statement that all standard real estate practices will be followed in acquiring land rights.

v. Overgrazing determination:

- Statement as to whether overgrazing in the project area is a problem and whether easements restricting grazing are required.

- The Corps of Engineers, in the review of the determination, may request concurrence from the Natural Resource Conservation Service as to the need for any grazing restricting easements.

(c) All requests for Section 303(e) approval shall be sent to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEMVN-RE-L
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

(3) Real Estate for Non-Cash-Flow Managed Projects: Federal Sponsors shall ensure that real estate acquisition of easements requiring a significant expenditure of funds and pre-construction monitoring are not begun until the Engineering and Design is substantially completed and there is a reasonably high level of certainty that the project will proceed to the next phase.

(4) Real Estate for Cash-Flow Managed Projects: The purchasing of real estate shall not occur until Phase 2. Preliminary real estate investigations, including preliminary ownership determination, should be initiated early in the project design activities.

h. FINAL ENGINEERING AND DESIGN:

(1) 95% Design Review: A "95% Design Review Conference", ~~between the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor,~~ shall be held by the Local Sponsor and the Federal Sponsor to review and mutually agree to a revised project cost estimate (fully-funded), environmental benefits, constructability, and a draft OMRR&R Plan (named the Projects Operations and Schedule Manual when referring to Corps projects). All projects will be assigned an updated Prioritization Criteria ranking score as part of the 95% design review. The updated Prioritization Score shall be reviewed by the Engineering and Environmental Workgroups at least one week prior to the 95% design review

conference. The other Agencies shall be notified by the Federal Sponsor at least four weeks prior of the date, time and place of the conference and invited to attend. The Federal Sponsor shall forward the Final Design Report (95%) and a set of Plans and Specifications to the other Agencies and the Local Sponsor for their review and comment, for receipt at least two weeks prior to design review conference ~~meeting~~. The Final Design Report shall include all supporting data, along with a description of how the project differs in cost, features, and environmental benefits from the project approved during Phase 0. It should also include a response to the comments brought up at the 30% Design Review Conference. ~~of the 30% design phase~~. Invitations and supporting data shall be sent to agency representatives of the Technical Committee, Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, Project Manager of the Local Sponsor, and the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities. However, if the Local Sponsor has responsibility for the design of the project, then the Local Sponsor shall forward to the other Agencies and the Federal Sponsor those items listed above. ~~a set of Plans and Specifications for their review and comments, for receipt at least two weeks prior to design review meeting.~~

(2) Changes in Project Scope: Changes in project scope will be addressed as stated in paragraph 6.e.(2).

i. CONSTRUCTION APPROVAL FOR NON-CASH-FLOW MANAGED PROJECTS For non-cash flow-managed projects, prior to advertising for bids for the first construction contract, the Federal Sponsor shall request permission from the Task Force, at any Task Force meeting or by fax vote, to proceed to construction. The request shall be addressed to the:

Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee
c/o U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
ATTN: CEMVN-PM-C
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

The request to proceed to construction will include at a minimum:

(1) Description of the project to include an easily reproducible PPL/Fact Sheet scale map which clearly depicts the current project boundary and project features, detailed description of project features/elements, updated assessment of benefits, and an updated fact sheet suitable for inclusion in the formal PPL documentation. In cases of substantial modifications/scope changes to original conceptual design or costs, describe the specific changes both qualitatively and quantitatively.

(2) Section 303(e) Certification from the Corps of Engineers.

(3) Overgrazing determination statement.

(4) The current estimated total project cost, including inflation through the life of the project.

(5) A statement that the Cost Sharing Agreement between the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor has been executed.

(6) A statement that:

(a) all NEPA, environmental, and cultural requirements, have been complied with; and,

(b) a hazardous, toxic, and radiological waste (HTRW) assessment, if required, has been performed[5].

(7) An estimate of project expenditures by State fiscal year and further subdivided by project funding category.

j. PHASE 2 APPROVAL FOR CASH-FLOW MANAGED PROJECTS: For cash flow-managed projects, at the end of Phase 1 the Federal Sponsor may request permission from the Task Force to proceed to Phase 2. Permission to proceed to Phase 2 implies permission to proceed to construction. The request to proceed to Phase 2 will be in accordance with Appendix C – Information Required in Phase 2 Authorization Requests.

(1) Phase 2 approval and funding requests will usually be evaluated at the quarterly meetings, in accordance with Section 6.a.(2). Federal Sponsors should provide a list of projects eligible for Phase 2 approval. Projects shall not be eligible for Phase 2 approval and funding until the requirements listed in Appendix C are satisfied. Approval to proceed to Phase 2 implies permission to proceed to construction. Due to limited funding, approval and budgeting of Phase 2 would involve competition among successful projects from Phase 1.

(2) At the time that a Federal Sponsor requests Phase 2 approval, the Federal Sponsor shall provide an estimate of the project based on the 5 subcategories along with a spending schedule. The Task Force shall approve the total funds necessary for Phase 2 implementation, but shall only allot funds on an as needed basis and will therefore generally fund the entire amount of

[5]Note: Agencies are cautioned to review the requirements for the "innocent landowner defense" under CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9601(35)(B), in cases involving the discovery of HTRW on lands, easements, servitudes and/or rights-of-way acquired for a project.

Subcategory C (Construction) and the first 3 years of both Subcategory D (Post-Construction Monitoring) and Subcategory E (OMRR&R) upon Phase 2 approval.

At subsequent January Task Force meetings, the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor should request approval to maintain 3 years of Subcategory D and E funding for each approved project; however, any additional funding (after the initial 3-year funding) shall not be allotted until project construction is completed. Individual project requests will be grouped with other requests and submitted for approval. Requests should be consistent with the previously approved budget for the project, unless additional information can be provided to justify the need for additional funds. When the request is more than the amount in the approved project's budget, the Technical Committee should review each specific request to determine if the amount should be approved. This programming procedure will ensure that, at any one time, an approved project has sufficient funds for about 3 years of Subcategories D and E.

(3) Subsequent to the quarterly meetings, Federal Sponsors may make a request to the committees at any time for additional funding that is needed for the current fiscal year when there is evidence that the project is progressing faster than expected, as long as those funds are utilized for the current phase of the project. Federal Sponsors shall specify under which subcategory additional funding is being requested.

(4) If construction award has not occurred within 2 years of Phase 2 approval, the Phase 2 funds will be placed on a revocation list for consideration by the Task Force at the next Task Force meeting. Requests to restore these funds may be considered at subsequent quarterly meetings.

k. CONSTRUCTION FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS:

(1) Upon approval to begin Engineering and Design (E&D) by the Task Force, the Corps of Engineers will issue to the Federal Sponsor a MIPR in the amount requested to cover up to a maximum of 75% of the E&D phase (85 percent after the Conservation Plan is approved except 5th and 6th list projects for which the percentage is 90 percent), as described in paragraph 6.d.(2).

(2) Upon approval to begin construction for non-cash flow-managed projects or upon approval to begin Phase 2 for cash flow-managed projects by the Task Force and deposit by the Local Sponsor of the required funds into the escrow account, the Federal Sponsor shall request that the Corps of Engineers issue a MIPR in the amount sufficient to cover the total construction and related costs of the project.

(3) In those cases where the Local Sponsor's annual work-in-kind plus cash contribution exceeds the project expenditures required cost sharing percentage, and at the request of the Federal Sponsor, the Corps of Engineers will disburse funds directly to the Local Sponsor to bring the project expenditures to the required cost sharing. The Federal Sponsor must approve the "work-in-kind" exceedance in advance.

(4) Annually, agencies shall review all projects approved for funding in Phases 1 or 2, identify excess funds in those phases, and make a recommendation to the Task Force as to how much of these funds to return at that time. Returned funds shall be available for reprogramming. At the quarterly meetings, the Task Force may also consider reprogramming excess funds that have not yet been returned to the Task Force. Agencies may return funds by returning a MIPR to the Corps of Engineers with a request to deobligate funds.

l. PROJECT BID OVERRUNS - Pre-award (Amended by Task Force on 21 Oct. 98):

(1) Statement of Problem: Occasionally bids on CWPPRA projects may exceed the project cost limits. When bids exceed the project cost limits, the options are:

(a) Option 1): allow the acceptance period to expire and abandon the project

(b) Option 2): reject all bids, reduce the scope of the project and re-advertise

(c) Option 3): request additional funding from the Task Force and award the contract

(2) Discussion:

(a) Option 1): is not an acceptable option if the project is needed.

(b) Option 2): may be required if the bids are obviously so far over the available funding that the Task Force would not consider additional funding requests.

(c) Option 3): the most desirable option if the overrun is not excessive enough to be considered under Option 2) as a candidate for rejection, scope reduction and re-advertisement.

If option 2 or 3 is selected, the resulting cost effectiveness should be evaluated for substantial increases in cost/habitat unit (i.e. 25% above original). This will

require a review of the change in benefits by the Environmental Work Group and approval by the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee. Provisions in bidding procedures by the State of Louisiana allow for acceptance of a bid within a 30-calendar day window after the offer is made. Provisions in bidding procedures by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, under the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) allow for acceptance of a bid within a 60-calendar day window after the offer is made. Provisions in bidding procedures by the Corps of Engineers, under the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), mandate acceptance of a construction bid within a 30 calendar day window after the offer is made, unless the bidder grants an extension in 30 day increments.

(3) Required Procedure:

(a) The final engineers cost estimate must have been reviewed and updated within 90 days prior to advertisement.

(b) If the final estimate, prior to advertising, equals or slightly exceeds the project cost limits, the bid package should contain a base bid, and additive or deductive alternatives that would allow the project to be awarded within the project cost limits. The base bid with additive or deductive alternates provides additional flexibility if the base bid is lower than anticipated.

(c) If the final estimate is within the available funds (authorized amount) prior to bidding and the base bid without alternates approach was used but the bid exceeded the project cost limits, the Federal Sponsor, with the concurrence of the Local Sponsor, will notify each of the agencies on the Task Force of their intention to request additional funds within 15 days of receipt of bids. The Federal Sponsor should also provide the other members of the Task Force bid data and any information that supports the request for additional funds at the same time.

(d) If the final estimate is within the available funds (authorized amount) prior to bidding and the base bid with alternates approach was used but the bid exceeded the project cost limits, the Federal Sponsor, with the concurrence of the Local Sponsor, would apply deductive alternates to get the project within available funds. In no case should the Federal Sponsor implement, without Task Force approval and Local Sponsor concurrence, a deductive alternative that would reduce the original project's cost-effectiveness by more than 25%; this will require prior consultation with the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee and the appropriate work groups. If after taking deductive alternatives the base bid still exceeds the project cost limits, the Federal Sponsor, with the concurrence of the Local Sponsor, will notify each of the agencies on the Task Force of their intention to request additional funds within

15 days of receipt of bids. The Federal Sponsor should also provide the other members of the Task Force bid data and any information that supports the request for additional funds at the same time.

(4) Mandates:

(a) The State of Louisiana must agree to cost share in the additional funds requested prior to bid acceptance.

(b) If a project has already received approval for a cost increase above project cost limits then it must stay within the budgeted amount for construction.

m. MONITORING:

(1) The Monitoring Plan and OMRR&R Plan (named the Projects Operations and Schedule Manual when referring to Corps projects) shall be developed in conjunction with the engineering and design to ensure that the plan will be completed prior to the Task Force granting approval for construction in accordance with paragraph 6.i. and j.

(2) Project monitoring shall be accomplished following the monitoring plan developed for the project by the Technical Advisory Group and as specified in the Cost Sharing Agreement. Funding for the monitoring activities shall be as required in paragraphs 5.c.(2), 6.a.(4)(a), 6.j.(2), and 6.k.

(3) Federal Sponsors shall maintain oversight over the Local Sponsor's expenditure of Post-Construction Biological Monitoring funds. The Local Sponsor shall submit invoices, requests for work-in-kind credits, etc., to the Federal Sponsor for its review. Subsequent to its review and approval of the expenditures, and within 90 days of receipt from the Local Sponsor, the Federal Sponsor shall forward the appropriate documentation to the Corps for payment.

(4) Monitoring contingency funds are available for both project-specific and programmatic activities as outlined in "Monitoring Contingency Fund - Standard Operating Procedure" dated December 8, 1999. The P&E Subcommittee has authority to approve or disapprove requests submitted by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Monitoring Program Manager.

n. OMRR&R: Project OMRR&R shall be as specified in the project's Cost Sharing Agreement. Funding for OMRR&R activities shall be as required in paragraphs 5.c.(2), 6.j.(2), and 6.k.

(1) Federal Sponsors shall maintain oversight over the Local Sponsor's expenditure of OMRR&R funds. The Local Sponsor shall submit invoices, requests for work-in-kind credits, etc., to the Federal Sponsor for its review. Subsequent to its review and approval of the expenditures, and within 90 days of receipt from the Local Sponsor, the Federal Sponsor shall forward the appropriate documentation to the Corps for payment.

(2) From time to time there will be projects that have completed construction, but that need modification to ensure their success, cover a design deficiency, or to handle some critical unanticipated requirement. Federal Sponsors may make a request through the Technical Committee to the Task Force for funding of such modifications.

o. PROJECT CLOSEOUT:

(1) The Local Sponsor and the Federal Sponsor shall keep books, records, documents, and other evidence pertaining to costs and expenses incurred by the project to the extent and in such detail as will properly reflect total project costs. The Local Sponsor and Federal Sponsor shall maintain such books, records, documents and other evidence for a minimum of three (3) years after completion of construction, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, and monitoring of the project and resolution of all relevant claims arising therefrom, and shall make available at their offices at reasonable times, such books, records, documents, and other evidence for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of the Local Sponsor and Federal Sponsor.

(2) Upon completion of all work and certification by the Federal Sponsor of the final accounting on the project, the Corps of Engineers shall release any excess project funds from the escrow account and/or reimburse the Local Sponsor for any overpayment of their cost sharing requirements, provided funds are available, in accordance with the provisions of the applicable Cost Sharing Agreement and the Escrow Agreement.

(3) If the Corps of Engineers advances funds to a Federal Sponsor for a project, any excess funds identified at the completion of the project shall be returned to the Corps of Engineers for credit to the CWPPRA accounts.

(4) Any excess funds in an escrow account shall be returned to the Local Sponsor, or at its option, transferred to another project in accordance with paragraph 5.c.(4).

p. PROJECT DEAUTHORIZATION: (amended by Task Force on June 21, 1995)

(1) When the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor agree that it is necessary to

deauthorize a project prior to construction, they shall submit a letter to the Technical Committee explaining the reasons for requesting the deauthorization and requesting approval by the Task Force.

(2) If agreement between the Federal Sponsor and the Local Sponsor is not reached, either party may then appeal directly to the Technical Committee. The Technical Committee will forward to the Task Force a recommendation concerning deauthorization of the project. Nothing herein shall preclude the Federal Sponsor or the Local Sponsor from bringing a request for deauthorization to the Task Force irrespective of the recommendation of the Technical Committee.

(3) Upon submittal of a request for deauthorization to the Technical Committee, all parties shall suspend all future obligations and expenditures as soon as practicable, until the issue is resolved.

(4) Upon receiving preliminary approval from the Task Force to deauthorize a project, the Chairman of the Technical Committee shall send notice to Louisiana Congressional delegation, the State House and Senate Natural Resources Committee chairs, the State Senator (s) and State Representative (s) in whose district the project falls, senior parish officials in the parish (es) where the project is located, any landowners whose property would be directly affected by the project, and any interested parties, requesting their comments and advising them that, at the next Task Force meeting, a final decision on deauthorization will be made.

(5) When the Task Force determines that a project should be abandoned or no longer pursued because of economic or other reasons, all expenditures shall cease immediately or as soon as practicable. Congress and the State House and Senate Natural Resources Committee chairs will be informed of the decision.

(6) Once a project is deauthorized by the Task Force, it shall be categorized as "deauthorized" and closed-out as required by paragraph 6.o.

q. STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AMENDMENTS AND TRACKING :

An official, current version of these Standard Operating Procedures shall be maintained by the COE NOD as part of their support of the Technical Committee. This document shall be available on the internet, and shall be appended with sufficient documentation so that the origin and approval of amendments can be traced. Approval will involve, at a minimum, formal acceptance by the Technical Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting. If the changes involve policy-level decisions, then any such changes must also be ratified by the Task Force. Amendments to the SOP are tracked in Appendix E.

Enclosures:

Appendix A - Priority 13 Selection Process
Appendix B - Ecological Review
Appendix C - Information Required in Phase 2 Authorization Requests
Appendix D - Calendar of Required Activities
Appendix E - Tracking of Changes

APPENDIX A

PRIORITY LIST 13 SELECTION PROCESS

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act
Guidelines for Development of the 13th Priority Project List
FINAL, 6 Feb 03

I. Development of Supporting Information

A. COE staff prepares spreadsheets indicating status of all restoration projects (CWPPRA PL 1-12; Coast 2050 Feasibility Study, Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities 1135, 204, 206; and State only projects). Also, indicate net acres at the end of 20 years for each CWPPRA project.

B. DNR/USGS staff prepares basin maps indicating:
1) Boundaries of the following projects types (PL 1-12; Coast 2050 Feasibility Study, COE 1135, 204, 206; and State only).
2) locations of completed projects,
3) projected land loss by 2050 with freshwater diversions at Caernarvon and Davis Pond plus PL 1-6) (Suhayda).

II. Identification of Areas of Need and Project Nominations

A. The four Regional Planning Teams meet, examine basin maps, discuss areas of need and Coast 2050 strategies, and choose no more than two projects per basin. A total of up to 18 projects could be nominated. Selection of the two projects nominated per basin will be by consensus, if possible. If voting is required, each officially designated parish representative in the basin will have one vote and each federal agency and DNR will have one vote.

B. The nominated projects will be indicated on a map and paired with Coast 2050 strategies. A lead Federal agency will be designated to assist LDNR and local governments in preparing preliminary project support information (fact sheet, maps, and potential designs and benefits). The Regional Planning Team Leaders transmit this information to the P&E subcommittee, Technical Committee and members of the Regional Planning Teams.

III. Preliminary Assessment of Nominated Projects

A. Agencies, parishes, landowners, and other individuals informally confer to develop projects. Nominated projects should be developed to support one or more Coast 2050 strategies. The goals of each project should be consistent with those of Coast 2050.

B. Each sponsor of a project proposed for nomination will prepare a brief project description (no more than one page plus a map) that discusses possible features and the Coast 2050 Criteria.

C. Engineering Work Group meets to estimate preliminary fully funded cost ranges for each

project, based on engineering judgment.

D. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups apply Coast 2050 Criteria to each project to achieve a consensus description for each project.

E. P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of cost estimates and Coast 2050 Criteria descriptions and furnishes to Technical Committee and State Wetlands Authority (SWA).

IV. Selection of Phase 0 Candidate Projects

A. Technical Committee meets to consider the project costs, Coast 2050 Criteria, and potential wetland benefits of the nominees. Technical Committee will select eight candidate projects for detailed assessment by the Environmental, Engineering, and Economic work groups.

B. Technical Committee assigns one project to each agency to develop preliminary Wetland Value Assessment data and engineering cost estimates for Phase 0 as described below.

V. Phase 0 Analysis of Candidate Projects

A. Sponsoring agency coordinates site visits for each project. Visit is vital so each agency can see the conditions in the area and estimate the project area boundary.

B. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups and academic advisors meet to refine project features and develop boundaries based on site visits.

C. Sponsoring agency develops Project Information Sheets on assigned projects, using formats developed by applicable work groups. Prepares preliminary draft Wetland Value Assessment Project Information Sheet. Makes Phase 1 engineering and design cost estimates and Phase 2 construction cost estimates.

D. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups evaluate all projects using the WVA and design/cost reviews. Revisit goals in light of additional data. Also determine risk/uncertainty and longevity/sustainability. All projects will be assigned a Prioritization Criteria ranking score by the Workgroups, using the currently approved Prioritization Criteria.

E. Engineering Work Group reviews and approves agency Phase 1 and 2 cost estimates.

F. Economics Work Group reviews cost estimates and develops annualized costs.

G. Corps of Engineers staff prepares information package for Technical Committee and State Wetlands Authority. Packages consist of:

1) updated Project Information Sheets;

2) a matrix for each region that lists projects, fully funded cost, average annual cost, Wetland Value Assessment results in net acres and Average Annual Habitat Units

(AAHU's), cost effectiveness (average annual cost/AAHU), risk/uncertainty, longevity/sustainability, and a consensus Prioritization Criteria ranking score;

3) qualitative discussion of supporting partnerships and public support; and

4) oyster lease impact areas delineated for the State's Restricted Area Map (this map should also be provided to DNR).

H. Technical Committee hosts two public hearings to present information from G above and allow public comment.

VI. Selection of 13th Priority Project List

A. Technical Committee meets and considers matrix, Project Information Sheets, and pubic comments. The Technical Committee will recommend up to four projects for selection to the 13th PPL.

B. The CWPPRA Task Force will review the TC recommendations and determine which projects will receive Phase 1 funding for the 13th PPL.

C. State Wetlands Authority reviews projects on the 13th Priority List and consider for Phase I approval and inclusion in the upcoming Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Plan.

13th Priority List Project Development Schedule

January 22, 2003	Distribute public announcement of PPL13 process and schedule
February 17, 2003	President's Day Holiday
February 19, 2003	Region IV Planning Team meeting (Rockefeller)
February 20, 2003	Region III Planning Team meeting (Morgan City)
February 26, 2003	Region II Planning Team meeting (NOD)
February 27, 2003	Region I Planning Team meeting (NOD)
February 21 – March 14	Agencies prepare fact sheets for RPT nominated projects
March 4, 2003	Mardi Gras
March 18, 2003	Engineering work group prepares preliminary cost estimates for nominated projects (DNR)
March 19, 2003	Env/Eng work groups jointly apply Coast 2050 criteria (DNR)
March 20, 2003	P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of nominated projects showing initial cost estimates and Coast 2050 descriptions (narratives) (DNR)
March 26, 2003	Tech Comm meets to select PPL13 candidate projects (NOD)
April 16, 2003 NOTE DATE CHANGE	Spring Task Force meeting (Lafayette)
May/June	Candidate project site visits
June/July/August/September	Env/Eng work group project evaluations
July 16, 2003	Technical Committee meeting (Baton Rouge)
August 14, 2003	Task Force meeting (New Orleans)
September 17, 2003	Technical Committee meeting (Baton Rouge)
October 16, 2003	Task Force meeting (Baton Rouge) – announce public meetings
November 19, 2003	PPL13 Public Meeting (Abbeville)
November 20, 2003	PPL13 Public Meeting (New Orleans)
December 10, 2003	Technical Committee meeting (New Orleans)
January 28, 2004 NOTE DATE CORRECTION	Task Force meeting to select PPL 13

APPENDIX B
ECOLOGICAL REVIEW

Project Ecological Review **(revised 2/23/01)**

The transition to a planning-phase/phase-one/phase-two approach was done to ensure a higher standard of project development and evaluation prior to the decision to commit construction dollars. It is essential that proposed projects have been well designed and evaluated and can demonstrate a high probability of successfully achieving the purpose as assigned by Congress in CWPPRA, i.e. "...significantly contribute to the long-term restoration or protection of the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the coastal wetlands in the State of Louisiana…" While there exists clear guidance as to how planning efforts develop proposed projects prior to Phase One, there is little in the way of a clear rationale for how a proposed project's biotic benefits will be assessed during Phase One. The following approach will allow for a consistent, clear, and logical assessment. The goal, strategy and goal-strategy relationship should have been worked out prior to Phase One. They are listed again in this Phase One process in order to ensure that these vital links between planning and Phase One are stated in a consistent manner and readily available to those responsible for Phase One project E&D and evaluation. The Project Feature Evaluation and Assessment of Goal Attainability would be Phase One activities - these are being done to varying degrees already; however, not on a consistent, standardized basis.

Ecological Review

Phase 0 activities:

A **Goal statement.** What is (are) the main biotic goal(s) of the proposed project?
State the biotic response desired from the project, *e.g. restore intermediate marsh acreage, increase marsh sustainability, reduce loss rates, increase productivity and or biodiversity, restore barrier island plant communities, etc.* The goal should be determined in the planning phase (pre-Phase One).

B **Strategy statement.** What is (are) the strategy(ies) for achieving the goal stated in "A"?
Describe the physical factors that will cause the desired biotic responses, *e.g. periodically expose water bottoms, reduce water and/or salinity levels, create sheet-flow over the marsh in designated areas, use rock rip-rap along the canal bank to reduce erosion rates, reintroduce alluvial sediments, create a barrier island platform that after settlement will support the desired habitat, etc.* The strategy(ies) should be determined in the planning phase.

C **Strategy-goal relationship.** How will the strategy(ies) achieve the goal(s)?
Describe how the physical factors affected by the project will cause the desired

biotic response, *e.g. by reducing the average salinities and tidal amplitudes the marsh loss rate will be reduced in this predominantly intermediate marsh, by reducing edge erosion the marsh will be protected, by creating a stable platform from dredged material a barrier island plant community can be reestablished.* The strategy-goal relationship should be defined in the planning phase.

Phase 1 activities:

D **Project Feature evaluation.** Do quantitative, engineering evaluations of specific project features such as weirs, culverts, siphons, etc. support the contention that the intended strategy will be achieved? If so, to what degree?

Quantitatively evaluate the project features and an evaluate them in terms of the desired physical causal factors, *e.g. compute how many cfs of river water the culverts will discharge into the project area, and how much sediment will be associated with it over the course of an average twelve-month period, quantify average water level or salinity reduction, etc.* If there are more than one design alternative, this step should be performed on each alternative. This evaluation would be conducted during the initial E&D of Phase One with the results being reviewed during the 30% design conference.

E **Assessment of goal attainability.** Does the relative degree of the project's physical effects, as determined in step "D", support the contention that the project will achieve the desired biotic goal(s) stated in "A"?

Assess the degree to which the project features would cause the stated biological goal: based on expert judgment, assisted with appropriate statistical and other computational tools, such as computer models, and a review of monitoring data and other scientific information. This would also be the appropriate time to identify and assess the potential risks associated with the project. Again, if more than one design alternatives are involved, step "E" should be performed on each alternative. Steps "D" and "E" may be used in an iterative fashion, such that if designs do not support biological goal attainment other designs could be developed and reassessed. This step evaluates the desired project biotic response based on the level of physical changes induced by the project, *e.g. determine the results are associated with projects that have caused similar hydrological responses in similar marsh settings, evaluate the evidence that supports the contention that a barrier island platform with the predicted after-settlement profile and grain-size composition will sustain the desired plant community, etc.* This evaluation would be conducted during the initial E&D of Phase One with the results being reviewed during the 30% design conference.

APPENDIX C
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PHASE 2 AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS

1. Description of Phase One Project

   Describe the candidate project as selected for Phase One authorization, including PPL/Fact Sheet scale map depicting the project boundary and project features, written description of the conceptual features of the project as authorized for Phase One, a summary of the benefits attributed to the Phase One project (e.g., goals/strategies, WVA results and acreage projections) and project budget information as estimated at Phase One authorization (e.g., anticipated costs of construction, O&M, monitoring, etc.).

2. Overview of Phase One Tasks, Process and Issues

   Brief description of Phase One analyses and tasks (engineering, land rights, environmental compliance (cultural resources, NEPA, and HTRW), etc.), including significant problems encountered or remaining issues.

3. Description of the Phase Two Candidate Project

   - Easily reproducible, PPL/Fact Sheet scale map which clearly depicts the current project boundary and project features, suitable for inclusion in the formal PPL documentation.
   - Detailed description of project features/elements, updated assessment of benefits, current cost estimates, and updated Fact Sheet suitable for inclusion in the formal PPL documentation. In cases of substantial modifications to original conceptual design or costs, describe the specific changes both qualitatively and quantitatively.

4. Checklist of Phase Two requirements:

   A. List of Project Goals and Strategies.

   B. A Statement that the Cost Sharing Agreement between the Lead Agency and the Local Sponsor has been executed for Phase I.

   C. Notification from the State or the Corps that landrights will be finalized in a short period of time after Phase 2 approval.

   D. A favorable Preliminary Design Review (30% Design Level). The Preliminary Design shall include completion of surveys, borings, geotechnical investigations, data analysis review, hydrologic data collection and analysis, modeling (if necessary), and development of preliminary designs.

E. Final Project Design Review (95% Design Level). Upon completion of a favorable review of the preliminary design, the Project plans and specifications shall be developed and formalized to incorporate elements from the Preliminary Design and the Preliminary Design Review.

F. A draft of the Environmental Assessment of the Project, as required under the National Environmental Policy Act must be submitted thirty days before the request for Phase 2 approval.

G. A written summary of the findings of the Ecological Review (See Appendix B).

H. Application for and/or issuance of the public notices for permits. If a permit has not been received by the agency, a notice from the Corps of when the permit may be issued.

I. A hazardous, toxic and radiological waste (HTRW) assessment, if required, has been prepared.

J. Section 303(e) approval from the Corps.

K. Overgrazing determination from the NRCS (if necessary).

L. Revised cost estimate of Phase 2 activities, based on the revised Project design.
Funding/Budget information:
1.) - Specific Phase Two funding request (updated construction cost estimate, three years of monitoring and O&M, etc.)
2.) - Fully funded, 20-year cost projection with anticipated schedule of expenditures

M. Estimate of project expenditures by state fiscal year subdivided by funding category.

N. A revised Wetland Value Assessment must be prepared if, during the review of the preliminary NEPA documentation, three of the Task Force agencies determine that a significant change in project scope occurred.

O. A breakdown of the Prioritization Criteria ranking score, finalized and agreed-upon by all agencies during the 95% design review.

P. Agencies should submit a spreadsheet with the categorical breakdown for Phase 2, as outlined below:

REQUEST FOR PHASE II APPROVAL

PROJECT: _____

PPL: _____ **Project No.** _____

Agency: _____

Phase I Approval Date: _____

Phase II Anticipated Approval Date: _____

	Original Baseline Phase I (100% Level) 1/	Original Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 2/	Recommended Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 3/	Recommended Baseline Phase II Incr 1 (100% Level) 4/
Engr & Des				
Lands				
Fed S&A				
LDNR S&A				
COE Proj Mgmt				
Ph II Const Phase				
Ph II Long Term				
Const Contract				
Const S&I				
Contingency				
Monitoring				
Ph II Const Phase				
Ph II Long Term				
O&M				
Total	-	-	-	-
Total Project		-	-	-

Prepared By: _____ **Date Prepared:** _____

NOTES:

1/ Original Baseline Phase I: The project estimate at the time Phase I is approved by Task Force.

2/ Original Baseline Phase II: The Phase II estimate reflected at the time Phase I is approved.

3/ Recommended Baseline Phase II (100%): The total Phase II estimate at the 100% level developed during Phase I, and presented at the time Phase II approval is requested.

4/ Recommended Baseline Phase II Increment 1 (100%): The funding estimate (at the 100% level) requested at the time Phase II approval is requested. Increment 1 estimate includes Phase II Lands, Phase II Fed S&A, Phase II LDNR S&A, Phase II Corps Proj Mgmt, Phase II Construction Costs, Phase II S&I, Phase II Contingency, Phase II Monitoring, 3 years of Long Term Monitoring, 3 years of Long Term O&M, and 3 years of Long Term Corps PM.

APPENDIX D
CALENDAR OF REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

Jan 1	Agencies return updated copy of Project Status Report to Corps of Engineers.
Jan 15	Agencies send quarterly Project Fact Sheet to Local Sponsor.
Jan 20	Corps of Engineers sends report on financial status of Projects to Agencies and Local Sponsor.
Mar 10	Corps of Engineers sends copy of Project Status report to Agencies for updating.
Apr 1	Agencies return updated copy of Project Status Report to Corps of Engineers.
Apr 15	Agencies send quarterly Project Fact Sheet to Local Sponsor.
Apr 20	Corps of Engineers sends report on financial status of Projects to Agencies and Local Sponsor.
Jun 10	Corps of Engineers sends copy of Project Status report to Agencies for updating.
Jun 15	Corps of Engineers informs Local Sponsor of funds required to be placed in escrow account for each Project by July 1.
Jul 1	Agencies return updated copy of Project Status Report to Corps of Engineers.
Jul 1	State fiscal year starts. Local Sponsor receives funds. Funds placed in escrow account.
Jul 15	Agencies send quarterly Project Fact Sheet to Local Sponsor,
Jul 20	Corps of Engineers sends report on financial status of Projects Agencies and Local Sponsor.
Aug 31	The Corps of Engineers and the Local Sponsor forwards the Agency a tabulation of actual project expenditures for the last State fiscal year.
Sep 10	Corps of Engineers sends copy of Project Status report to Agency for updating.
Sep 30	Agencies forward to the Local Sponsor a report on all project expenditures

for the last State fiscal year.

Oct 1	Agencies return updated copy of Project Status Report to Corps Engineers.
Oct 1	Federal fiscal year starts. Federal funds received.
Oct 15	Agencies send quarterly Project Fact Sheet to Local Sponsor.
Oct 20	Corps of Engineers sends report on financial status of Projects Agencies and Local Sponsor
Nov 1	For budgetary purposes, the Agencies furnish the Local Sponsor estimate of funds required for next State fiscal year.
Nov 30	Priority List submitted to HQUSACE or ASA (CW).
Dec 10	Corps of Engineers sends copy of Project Status report to Agency for updating.
Dec 31	Corps of Engineers furnishes MIPR to Agencies for Preliminary Engineering and Design

APPENDIX E
TRACKING OF CHANGES

Revisions 1-5 of this document were maintained in a "draft" format that utilized redline and strikeout text in an attempt to track changes. Because of the extensive changes that had been made throughout the years, this "draft" format made it very difficult to follow the intent of the procedures. Beginning with Revision 6 (15 Apr 03), the document will be maintained in a "clean" format. This appendix was added in Revision 7 to track the origin and approval of amendments made to the document in all future revisions of the SOP. The table below outlines all amendments to the SOP, beginning in Revision 7 (approved by the Technical Committee on 30 Sep 03).

#	First Appears in Revision #	Requested Change/Reason for Requested Change	Amendment Requested by?	When Amendment Was Approved	Approval Date
1	7	All instances where the words "OMRR&R Plan" occur, replace with "Project Operations & Schedule Manual" when referencing the Corps of Engineers. Change was requested to satisfy the requirements of Corps' attorneys. The name change is only applicable to the Corps.	Proposed by LDNR, Dr. Bill Good.	Technical Committee, at regularly scheduled meeting (Agenda Item #8).	16 Jul 03
2	7	During the 15 Apr 03 meeting to modify the SOP, it was agreed that the Corps would provide suggested language in order to clarify the funding cap for cash flow and non-cash flow projects. The Corps-suggested revisions to all of Section 5.d. were incorporated into the SOP.	Requested by USACE, Ms. Gay Browning, as a clarification of the baseline estimate. At the 10 Dec 02 Technical Committee meeting, the Engineering Workgroup was tasked with looking at this issue and developing a proposal for consideration by the Technical Committee. At the 26 Mar 03 Technical Committee meeting (Agenda Item F), the Technical Committee accepted the Engineering Workgroup recommendation that the most current Phase II estimate should be used as the baseline estimate and that there was no basis for changing the currently-allowable 25% cap above the baseline estimate.	Technical Committee, at regularly scheduled meeting (Agenda Item #8).	16 Jul 03
3	7	Incorporation of language to allow Phase II authorizations at any regular	Originally proposed by USFWS, Mr. Darryl	Task Force, at a regularly	14 Aug 03

		quarterly Task Force meeting into the SOP.	Clark. Approved by the Technical Committee at the 16 Jul 03 meeting (Agenda Item #8), for recommendation to the Task Force.	scheduled meeting (Agenda Item #4)	
4	7	Incorporation of language into the SOP regarding updates to the Prioritization Criteria scoring of un-constructed projects at the 95% design review. Incorporation of language into the SOP regarding prioritization of candidate projects as part of the Phase 0 analysis.	Originally proposed by the Engineering/ Environmental Workgroups. Approved by the Technical Committee at the 16 Jul 03 meeting (Agenda Item #1), for recommendation to the Task Force.	Task Force, at a regularly scheduled meeting (Agenda Item #5)	14 Aug 03
5	7	Incorporation of language into the SOP outlining the process for requesting approval for OM&M funding beyond the first three years.	Originally proposed by the USACE, Ms. Julie Z. LeBlanc, in order clarify the procedure for the monitoring funding request under consideration at the 14 Aug 03 Task Force meeting. Approved by the Technical Committee via email vote on 13 Aug 03 (LDNR abstaining), for recommendation to the Task Force.	Task Force, at a regularly scheduled meeting (Agenda Item #5)	14 Aug 03

Status of the Freshwater Bayou Bank Stabilization Project (TV11b, XTV-27)

Freshwater Bayou Shoreline Stabilization (Belle Isle Bayou to the Lock)
State Project XTV-27 and Federal Project TV-11b
Vermilion Parish, Louisiana

Project Status Report December 2003

Description of Phase One Project

The project was approved on the 9th Priority Project List and was called the Freshwater Bayou Shoreline Stabilization and Hydrologic Restoration.

The originally authorized project included two features 1) a rock dike to protect shoreline habitat and 2) water control structures for restoring hydrology in the project area. The rock dike would be built along the eastern bank of Freshwater Bayou Canal, between Belle Isle Canal and Freshwater Bayou Lock, a distance of approximately 41,000-feet. The dike is designed to halt shoreline erosion along the east bank of the canal. Special features are being incorporated into the project design to allow estuarine organisms to access wetlands behind the rock dike. These special features will leave small gaps in the rock at infrequent intervals to allow natural water exchange behind the dike segments. Shoreline sections at the gap locations will be armored to prevent erosion into the adjacent bankline and marshes. Four water control structures (installed, operated, and maintained by local landowners) would be placed at various locations along the perimeter of the project area to manage water levels minimizing impacts to emergent vegetation from standing water.

The original project area covered 4,915 acres and the features would produce 251 Average Annual Habitat Units and benefit 529 acres over the twenty- year life of the project. The fully funded cost was estimated at $25,071,556 with approximately $1.5 million for Phase I and $23.6 million for Phase II.

Overview of Phase One Tasks, Process and Issues

A Phase I work plan was developed in March 2000 and submitted to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee for review. The work plan detailed costs, schedules and tasks for completing all necessary engineering and design, environmental compliance, and real estate assessments required to produce plans and specifications for construction of the project.

A number of significant issues have arisen during Phase I including project hydrologic feature concerns, technical problems during collection of engineering field data, disagreements between the sponsors regarding the design characteristics of the breakwater, and multi-year negotiations for a project cost share agreement. Most of these issues have been recently addressed and the project is expected to be ready for a 95% Design Review in early 2004. Completion of a cost share agreement model is expected to take until spring 2004 depending upon approvals required from administrative offices of both sponsors.

Description of the Phase Two Candidate Project

Project Fact Sheet

Lead Agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and State of Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

Project Location: This 285-acre project area is located in Vermilion Parish along the eastern shoreline of Freshwater Bayou Canal (FBC) between the Freshwater Bayou Lock and Belle Isle Canal.

Project Purpose: The banks of Freshwater Bayou Canal are rapidly eroding, due mainly to boat traffic. In the project area, several breaches have developed in the bankline along the east side of the canal. These breaches allow boat wakes to push turbid, higher salinity waters into interior marsh, causing marsh loss and decreasing SAV coverage. A large area of interior marsh in the northern portion of the project area is fragmenting and turning to open water, in part due to the breaches.

Project Features: A rock dike would be built along the eastern bank of Freshwater Bayou Canal, between Belle Isle Canal and Freshwater Bayou Lock, a distance of approximately 41,000-feet. The dike is designed to halt shoreline erosion along the east bank of the canal. Special features are being incorporated into the project design to allow estuarine organisms to access wetlands behind the rock dike. These special features will leave small gaps in the rock at infrequent intervals to allow natural water exchange behind the dike segments. Shoreline sections at the gap locations will be armored to prevent erosion into the adjacent bankline and marshes.

Project Costs: The estimated cost of the project, including real estate, environmental compliance, engineering and design, relocations, construction, monitoring, and O&M expenses, is $25,023,382.00

Project Status: The partnering agencies have completed a 30% design review and are working toward a final 95% design review in fall 2004. The project schedule calls for seeking construction authorization from the CWPPRA Task Force at the spring 2004 meeting.

Information: Additional information on this project is available on the LACOAST.GOV website or may be obtained by contacting Gregory Miller at 504-862-2310 or via email at Gregory.B.Miller@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

Checklist of Phase Two requirements:

A. List of Project Goals and Strategies.

> The goal of the project is to stop shoreline erosion along the east bank of Freshwater Bayou Canal between the Leland Bowman Lock and Belle Isle Bayou (approximately 40,000 feet).

B. A Statement that the Cost Sharing Agreement between the Lead Agency and the Local Sponsor has been executed for Phase I.

> A cost share agreement model has been negotiated and is currently in review at Corps of Engineers offices at the Mississippi Valley Division and Headquarters. The New Orleans District has submitted the model agreement for approval and is seeking delegated authority for the District Engineer to execute the agreement. The review period is scheduled to end in January 2004 and if delegated signature authority is granted to the District Engineer, then a project specific agreement could be executed as soon as the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources signs the document.

C. Notification from the State or the Corps that landrights will be finalized in a short period of time after Phase 2 approval.

> A draft Real Estate Plan has been completed and is being reviewed within the New Orleans District. The plan outlines all of the necessary real estate instruments required to construct the project and identifies the affected landowners. It is estimated that all necessary real estate instruments can be obtained within 90-days of completion of the plan.

D. A favorable Preliminary Design Review (30% Design Level). The Preliminary Design shall include completion of surveys, borings, geotechnical investigations, data analysis review, hydrologic data collection and analysis, modeling (if necessary), and development of preliminary designs.

> A 30% Design Review was held in Abbeville, Louisiana on June 27, 2003 and a memo documenting the completion of the design review was sent to the members of the Technical Committee. In addition, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources provided a letter of support for proceeding with completion of the design of the project.

E. Final Project Design Review (95% Design Level). Upon completion of a favorable review of the preliminary design, the Project plans and specifications shall be developed and formalized to incorporate elements from the Preliminary Design and the Preliminary Design Review.

> A 95% design review has not been conducted at this point. However, final plans and specifications and a design report are complete and a design review is being scheduled for January 2004.

F. A draft of the Environmental Assessment of the Project, as required under the National Environmental Policy Act must be submitted thirty days before the request for Phase 2 approval.

A Draft Environmental Assessment was released for public comment in May 2002. A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed in November 2002 completing the National Environmental Policy Act compliance requirements for the project.

G. A written summary of the findings of the Ecological Review (See Appendix B).

A draft Ecological Review was distributed at the meeting 30% Design Review meeting. LDNR is preparing the final Ecological Review.

H. Application for and/or issuance of the public notices for permits. If a permit has not been received by the agency, a notice from the Corps of when the permit may be issued.

The Corps of Engineers is not required to obtain a permit for this project. However, an Environmental Assessment was completed in November 2002 to cover all wetlands conservation and protection issues associated with construction and maintenance of the project.

I. A hazardous, toxic and radiological waste (HTRW) assessment, if required, has been prepared.

An HTRW assessment was included in the Environmental Assessment completed in November 2002.

J. Section 303(e) approval from the Corps.

Section 303(e) approval has been provided by the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Real Estate Division.

K. Overgrazing determination from the NRCS (if necessary).

An overgrazing determination has been sought from NRCS and will be included as part of the Real Estate Plan.

L. Revised cost estimate of Phase 2 activities, based on the revised Project design.

A fully funded, 20-year cost projection is being prepared by the Economics Work Group and will be available in late December 2003.

M. Estimate of project expenditures by state fiscal year subdivided by funding category.

This information will be available upon completion of the fully funded, 20-year cost projection is being prepared by the Economics Work Group and will be available in late December 2003.

N. A revised Wetland Value Assessment must be prepared if, during the review of the preliminary NEPA documentation, three of the Task Force agencies determine that a significant change in project scope occurred.

> Changes in project scope resulted in a reduction in the project area and environmental benefits. As a result, in accordance with program procedures, the project development team coordinated revisions to the WVA with the Chairman of the CWPPRA Environmental Work Group. Project benefits were reduced to 74.26 Average Annual Habitat Units; a 70% reduction from the originally authorized project. However, the elimination of the water control structures also reduced the project construction costs and as a result the revised cost benefit ratio is not significantly different than the original estimate.

O. A breakdown of the Prioritization Criteria ranking score, finalized and agreed-upon by all agencies during the 95% design review.

> A revised Prioritization Criteria ranking score has been prepared but has not been finalized because a fully funded cost estimate has not been completed. Upon completion of the cost estimate that information will be incorporated into the Prioritization Criteria ranking score and distributed to the Environmental and Engineering Work Groups for review and approval.

P. Agencies should submit a spreadsheet with the categorical breakdown for Phase 2, as outlined below:

REQUEST FOR PHASE II APPROVAL

PROJECT: _____

PPL: _____ **Project No.** _____

Agency: _____

Phase I Approval Date: _____

Phase II Anticipated Approval Date: _____

	Original Baseline Phase I (100% Level) 1/	Original Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 2/	Recommended Baseline Phase II (100% Level) 3/	Recommended Baseline Phase II Incr 1 (100% Level) 4/
Engr & Des				
Lands				
Fed S&A				
LDNR S&A				
COE Proj Mgmt				
Ph II Const Phase				
Ph II Long Term				
Const Contract				
Const S&I				
Contingency				
Monitoring				
Ph II Const Phase				
Ph II Long Term				
O&M				
Total	-	-	-	-
Total Project		-	-	-

Prepared By: _____ **Date Prepared:** _____

NOTES:

1/ Original Baseline Phase I: The project estimate at the time Phase I is approved by Task Force.

2/ Original Baseline Phase II: The Phase II estimate reflected at the time Phase I is approved.

3/ Recommended Baseline Phase II (100%): The total Phase II estimate at the 100% level developed during Phase I, and presented at the time Phase II approval is requested.

4/ Recommended Baseline Phase II Increment 1 (100%): The funding estimate (at the 100% level) requested at the time Phase II approval is requested. Increment 1 estimate includes Phase II Lands, Phase II Fed S&A, Phase II LDNR S&A, Phase II Corps Proj Mgmt, Phase II Construction Costs, Phase II S&I, Phase II Contingency, Phase II Monitoring, 3 years of Long Term Monitoring, 3 years of Long Term O&M, and 3 years of Long Term Corps PM.

Additional Agenda Items

Date of Upcoming Task Force Meeting

The winter Task Force meeting will be held January 28, 2004 at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans, Louisiana. Supporting documents for the meeting should be submitted by COB January 12, 2004.

Dates of Future Program Meetings

January 28, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
March 17, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
April 14, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
July 14, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
August 18, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
September 15, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
October 13, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Baton Rouge
December 8, 2004	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
January 26, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans