

Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration Project

Phase III Proposed Early Restoration

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration project involves the restoration of beach, dune, and back-barrier marsh habitats at four barrier island locations in Louisiana. The four locations are Caillou Lake Headlands (also known as Whiskey Island), Chenier Ronquille, Shell Island (West Lobe and portion of East Lobe), and North Breton Island (a part of the Breton National Wildlife Refuge). The U.S. Department of the Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are allocating funding to the project and will lead restoration of North Breton Island and Chenier Ronquille Island respectively.

The goal of the Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration project is to restore beach, dune, and back-barrier marsh habitats, as well as brown pelicans, terns, skimmers, and gulls to help compensate the public for spill-related injuries and losses to these resources.

The restoration work proposed at each island involves placement of appropriately sized sediments to create beach, dune, and back-barrier marsh areas; installation of sand fencing to trap and retain windblown sediments and foster dune development; and revegetation of appropriate native species in dune and back-barrier marsh habitat.

Sediment will be pumped from appropriate borrow area locations specific to each island and conveyed to the

restoration sites through temporary pipeline corridors. The restoration methods proposed here are established methods for this type of restoration activity.

Louisiana's barrier islands, especially the islands located in the Barataria Hydrologic Basin, were heavily impacted by the spill. Numerous dead and oiled brown pelicans, terns, skimmers, and gulls were collected during and following the spill. The ecological resources and services that would be gained by this restoration are anticipated to help compensate the public for spill-related injuries and losses to beach/dune and backbarrier marsh in Louisiana, as well as for injuries to brown pelicans, terns, skimmers, and gulls.

ESTIMATED COST

The estimated cost to implement the Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration Project is \$318,363,000.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT

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