GIWW - Perry Ridge West Bank Stabilization (CS-30)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2000
Cost: $1.6 million
Project Area: 1,132 acres
Status: Construction
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 83 acres
Project Type: Shoreline Protection

Location

The project is located along the northern bank of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) between Perry Ridge and the Sabine River in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

This section of the GIWW was dredged to allow the use of doublewide barges, and, consequently, has intensified the occurrence of wake erosion. In addition, the construction of the Calcasieu Ship Channel and the deepening of Sabine Pass have increased the salinity and water currents within the GIWW. These activities have caused the GIWW shoreline to breach, thus impacting the interior marsh of the project area.

Restoration Strategy

Proposed project components involve installation of 9,500 feet of rock riprap along the northern bank of the GIWW from Perry Ridge to its intersection with the Sabine River. An additional 2,200 feet of rock riprap will be installed from the Sabine/GIWW intersection north along the Sabine River. This proposed work is referred to as "construction unit number 2." Approximately 22,952 linear feet of terraces will be constructed in the shallow, open water areas north of the GIWW to reduce fetch (distance a wave can travel) and allow recovery of the interior marshes. Terraces will be vegetated with 9,400 trade-gallon-sized plantings of California bulrush. This proposed work is referred to as "construction unit number 3."

Settlement plates such as the one pictured here will be used to determine if settling of the structure has occurred. Technicians from NRCS's Crowley Watershed Office are shown taking baseline elevations before more rock is deposited. Future elevation readings will be taken after the structure is completed.

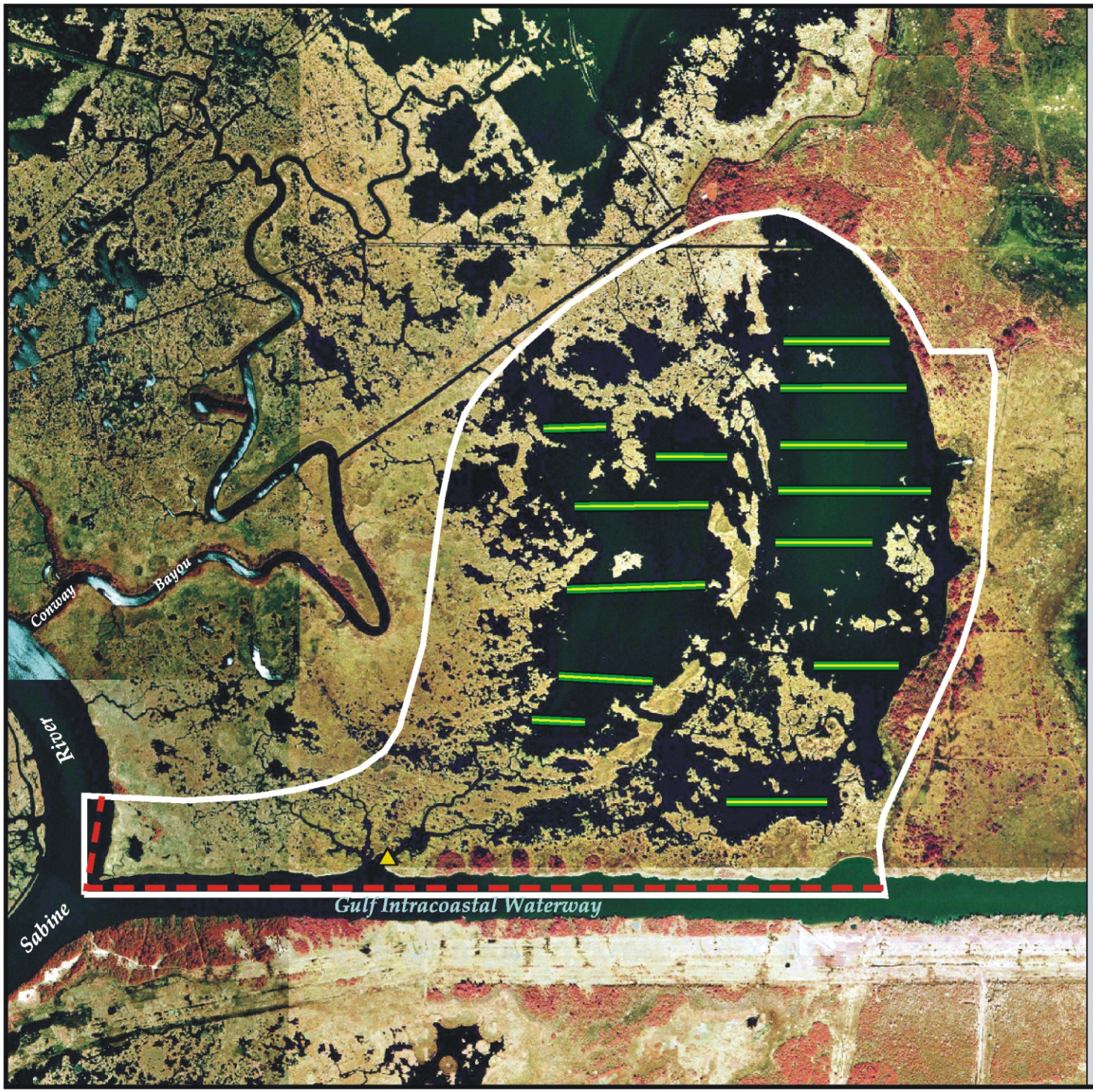
Progress to Date

The contract was awarded for construction unit 2, and placement of riprap began the week of November 12, 2001. The contract for the terrace and vegetative phase of the project (construction unit 3) has been awarded, and work began the week of November 14, 2001. Construction of all units will be completed by August 2002. The monitoring plan is currently in development and should be finalized in the spring of 2002.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Alexandria, LA
(318) 473-7816

Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308



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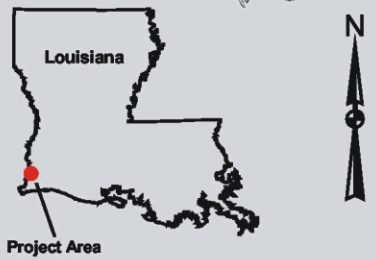
- Earthen Plug
- Rock Dike
- Terrace with Vegetative Planting
- Project Boundary



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