

Coastal Restoration in Louisiana

***Town Hall Meetings
February 2010***



US Army Corps of Engineers
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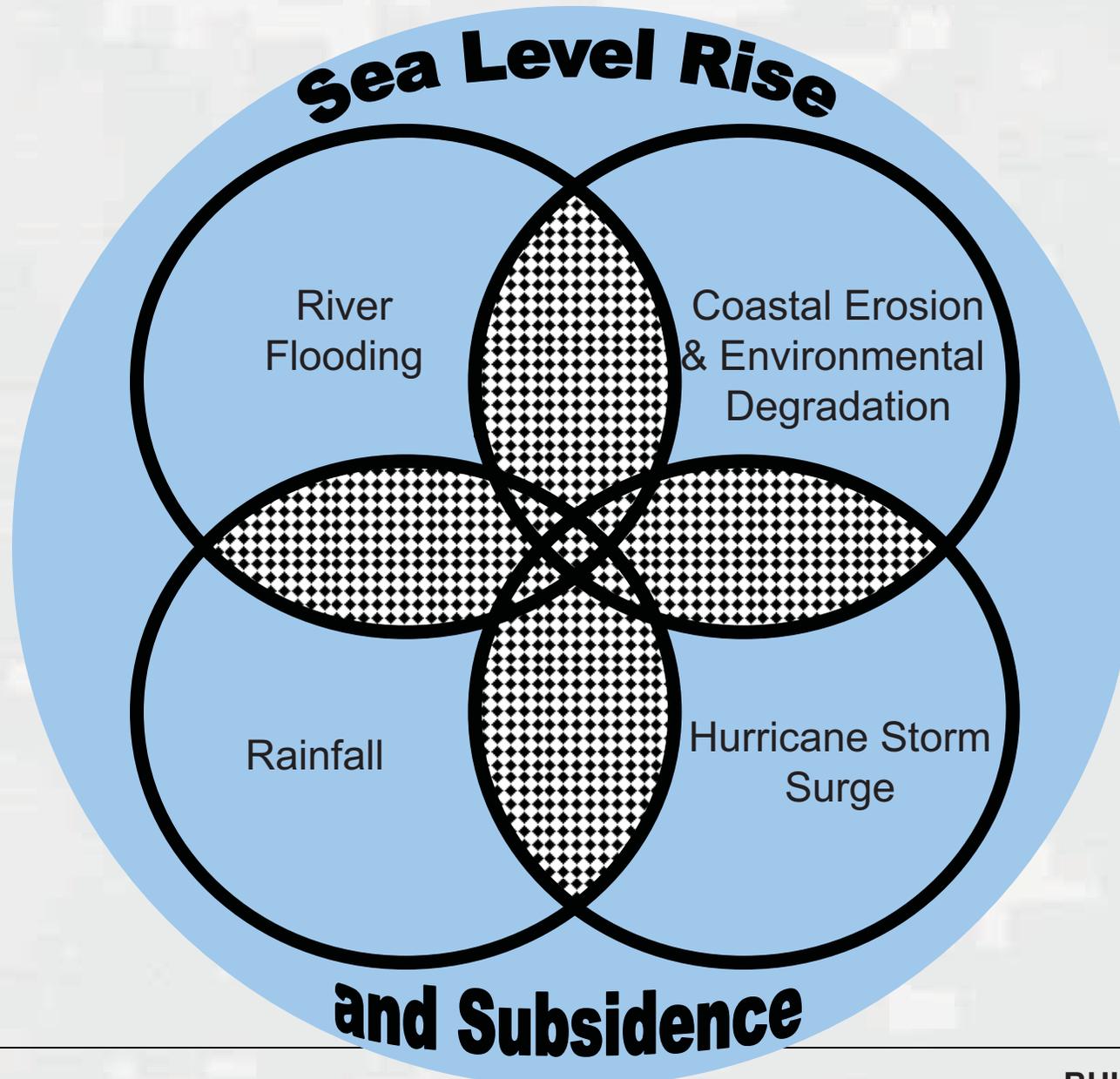


USACE New Orleans Mission

- Public safety is the Corps' #1 priority
- Flood risk management mission
- Navigation mission
- Ecosystem restoration mission
 - New Orleans District is engaged in ecosystem restoration
 - To date constructed:
 - 25,000 acres of land through beneficial use of dredged material
 - 4 Mississippi River diversions
 - More than 25 miles of shoreline protection



The Four Major Flood Risks in Coastal LA



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Coastal Restoration Efforts

- New Orleans District is actively engaged in ecosystem restoration and planning
 - Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act
 - Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
 - Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA)
 - Louisiana Coastal Protection & Restoration (LACPR)
 - MRGO Ecosystem Restoration
 - Southwest Coastal Louisiana
 - Freshwater diversions and river management
- All efforts focus on environmental sustainability and balance of interests

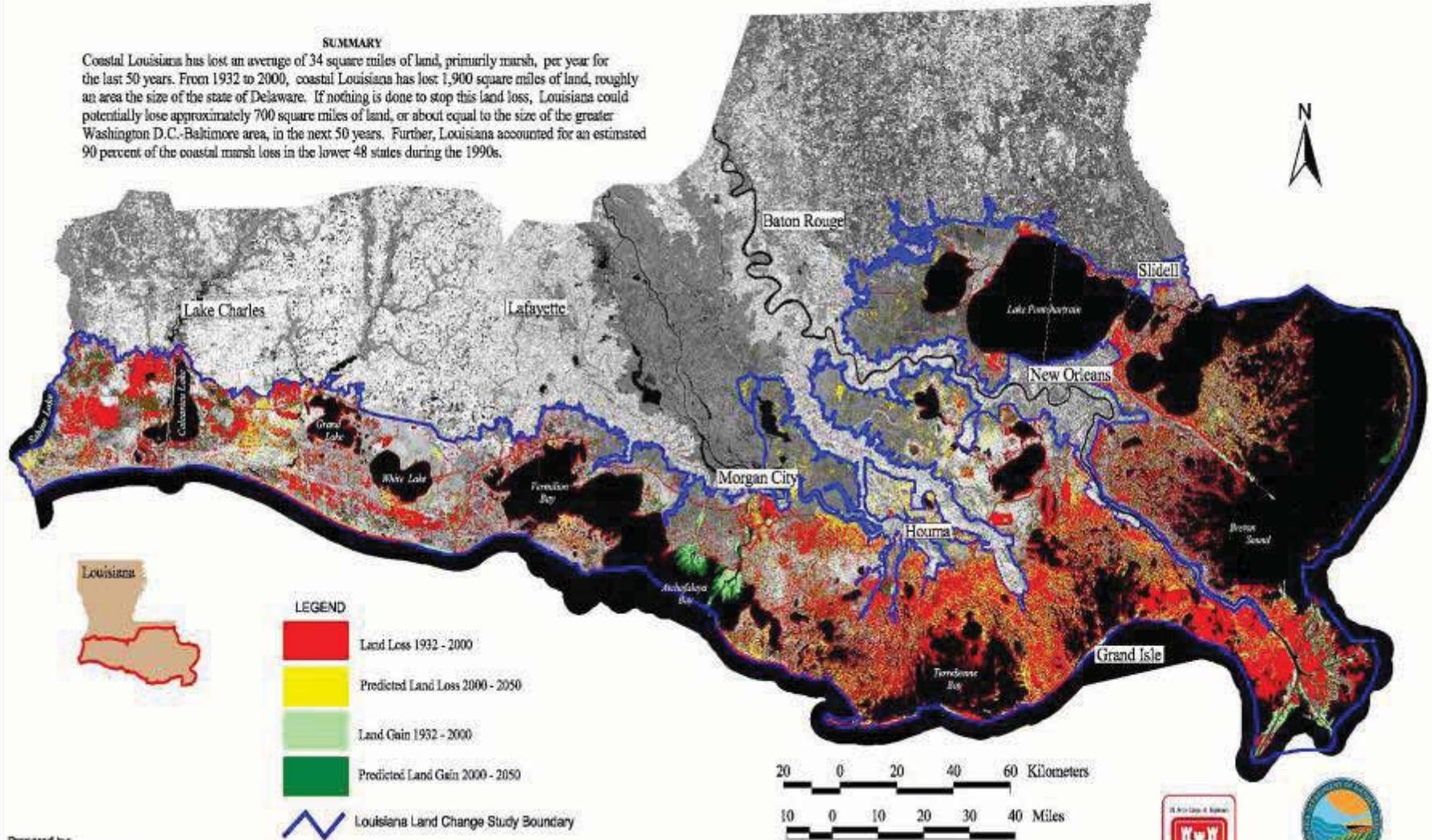




100+ Years of Land Change for Coastal Louisiana

SUMMARY

Coastal Louisiana has lost an average of 34 square miles of land, primarily marsh, per year for the last 50 years. From 1932 to 2000, coastal Louisiana has lost 1,900 square miles of land, roughly an area the size of the state of Delaware. If nothing is done to stop this land loss, Louisiana could potentially lose approximately 700 square miles of land, or about equal to the size of the greater Washington D.C.-Baltimore area, in the next 50 years. Further, Louisiana accounted for an estimated 90 percent of the coastal marsh loss in the lower 48 states during the 1990s.



Prepared by:
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Lafayette, LA

Background is 2000 Thematic Mapper pancromatic band.



Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-03-005

Coastal Louisiana's Importance to the Nation

- Coastal Louisiana is a vital economic resource for the Nation
 - Produces \$67 billion in oil & gas annually
 - Ranks 1st in the country in crude oil
 - Ranks 2nd in the country in natural gas production
 - Commercial fishing comprises about 1/4 of the Nation's total fishing industry
- Louisiana's coastal zone is home to ports that carried over 467 million tons of waterborne commerce (2008 data)
- Resources are threatened by disappearance of Louisiana's coastal ecosystems
- Loss of wetlands increases storm surge risk
- ***Above all, protecting coastal Louisiana is about protecting the people, the culture, and a way of life that is uniquely Louisiana***

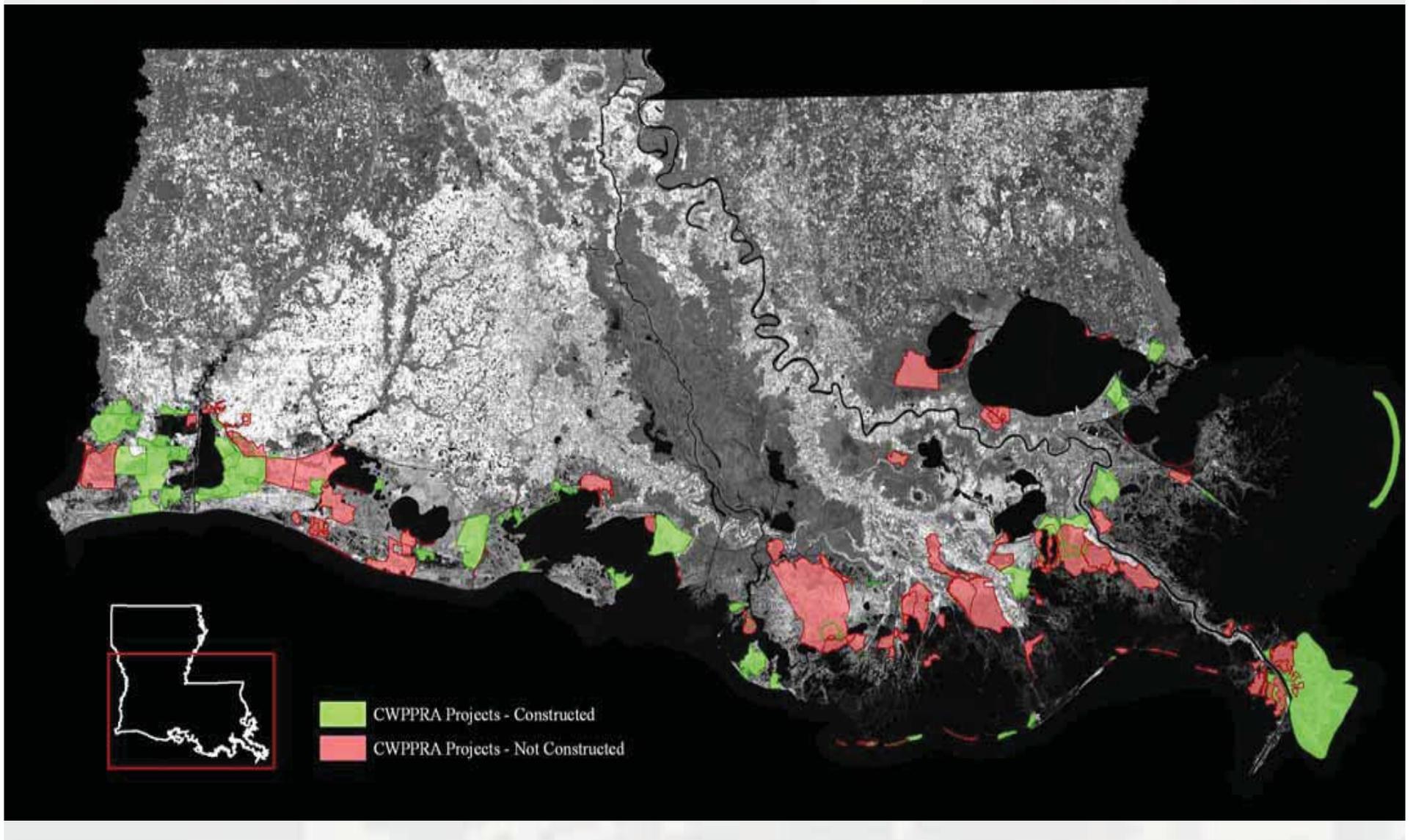


Integrated Water Resources Management

- Complex National Problem
- Shared responsibility between Corps, Federal Partners, the States of LA and MS, and local governments
- Teamwork to derive and implement nationally beneficial solutions
- New perspective on land and water management requiring difficult decisions and tradeoffs
- Emphasis on efficiencies to achieve more within existing resources



Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

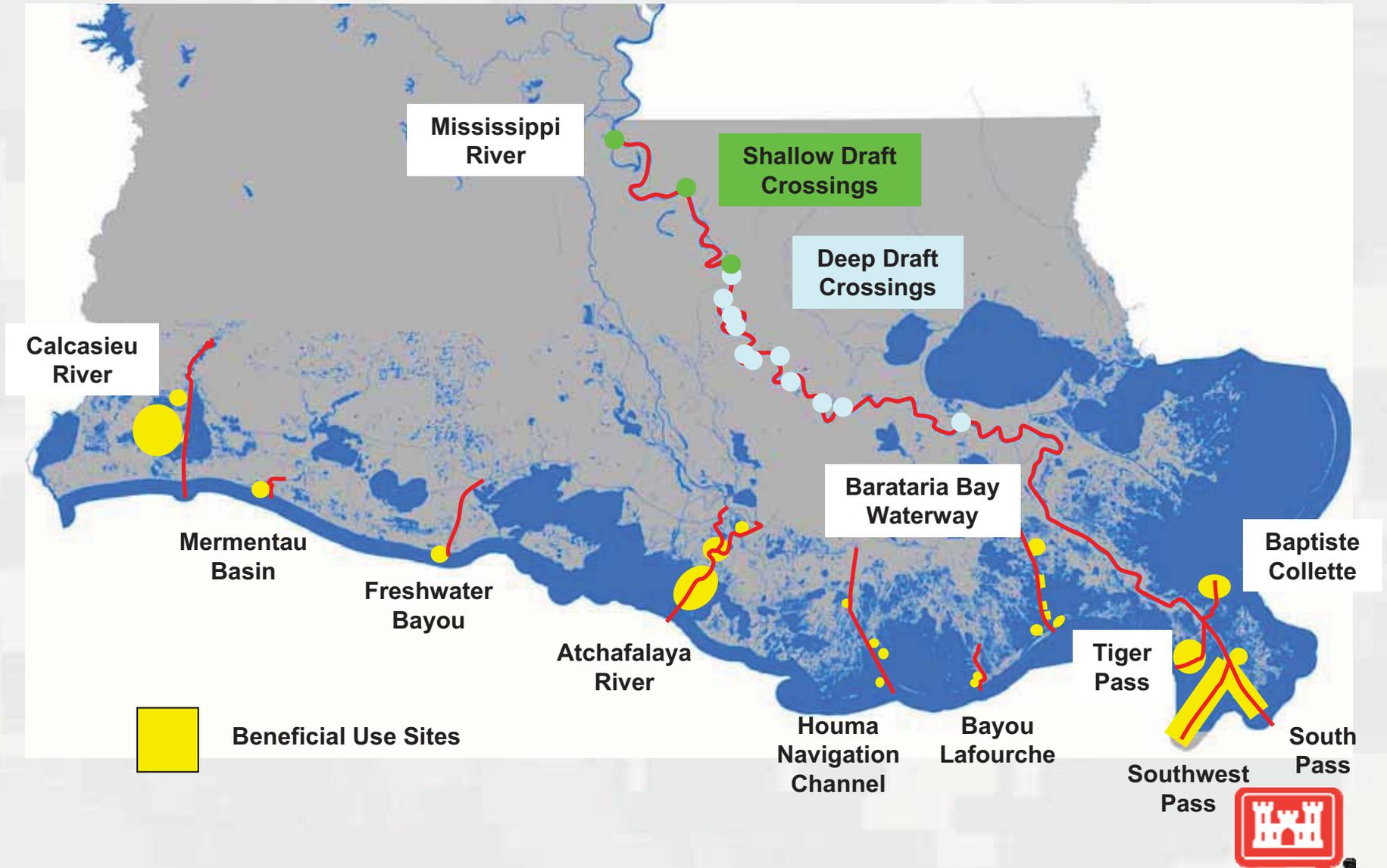


CWPPRA Current Status

- 144 projects in various stages of implementation
 - ▶ Includes planning, engineering and design (E&D), construction, and post construction operations and maintenance
- 82 projects constructed
- 15 projects currently under construction
- 47 projects are in E&D phase and scheduled for construction in FY10 or later



Beneficial Use of Dredged Material



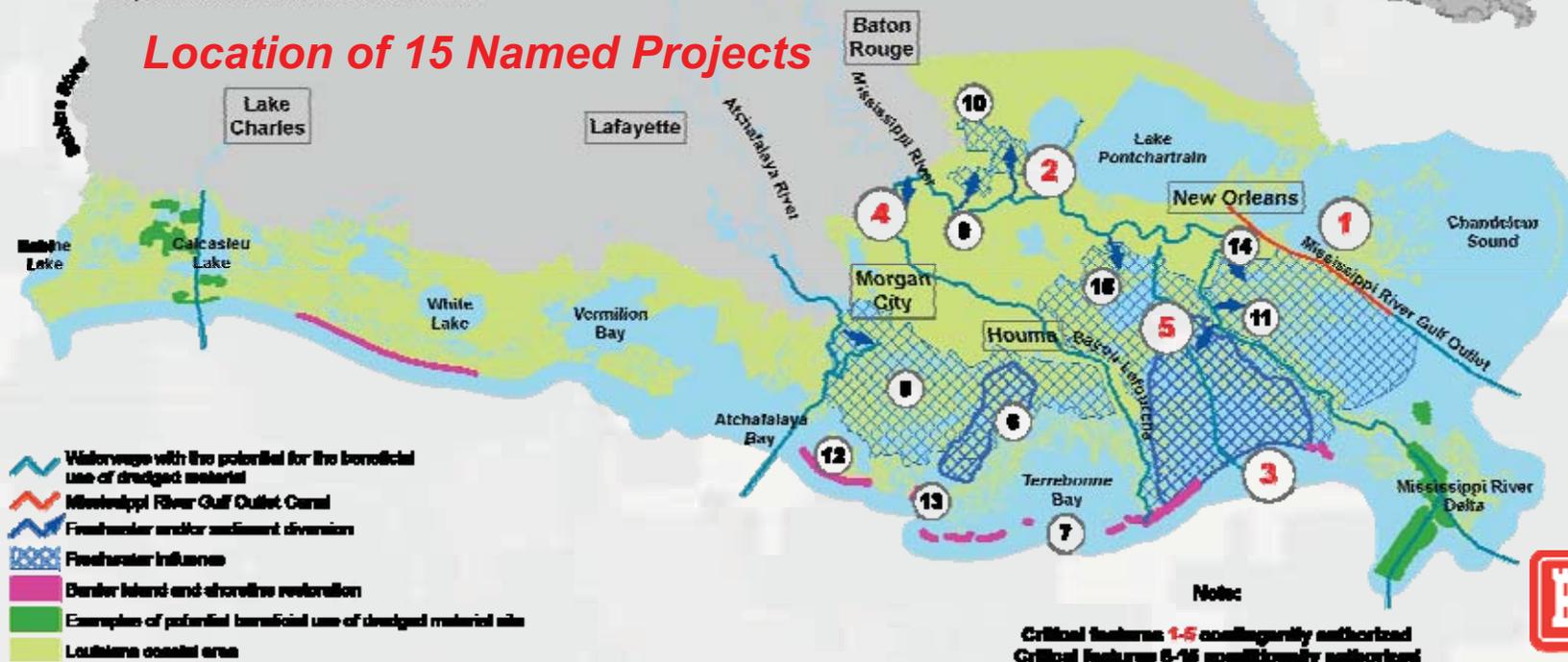
Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA)

Louisiana Coastal Area Ecosystem Restoration WRDA 2007 Title VII

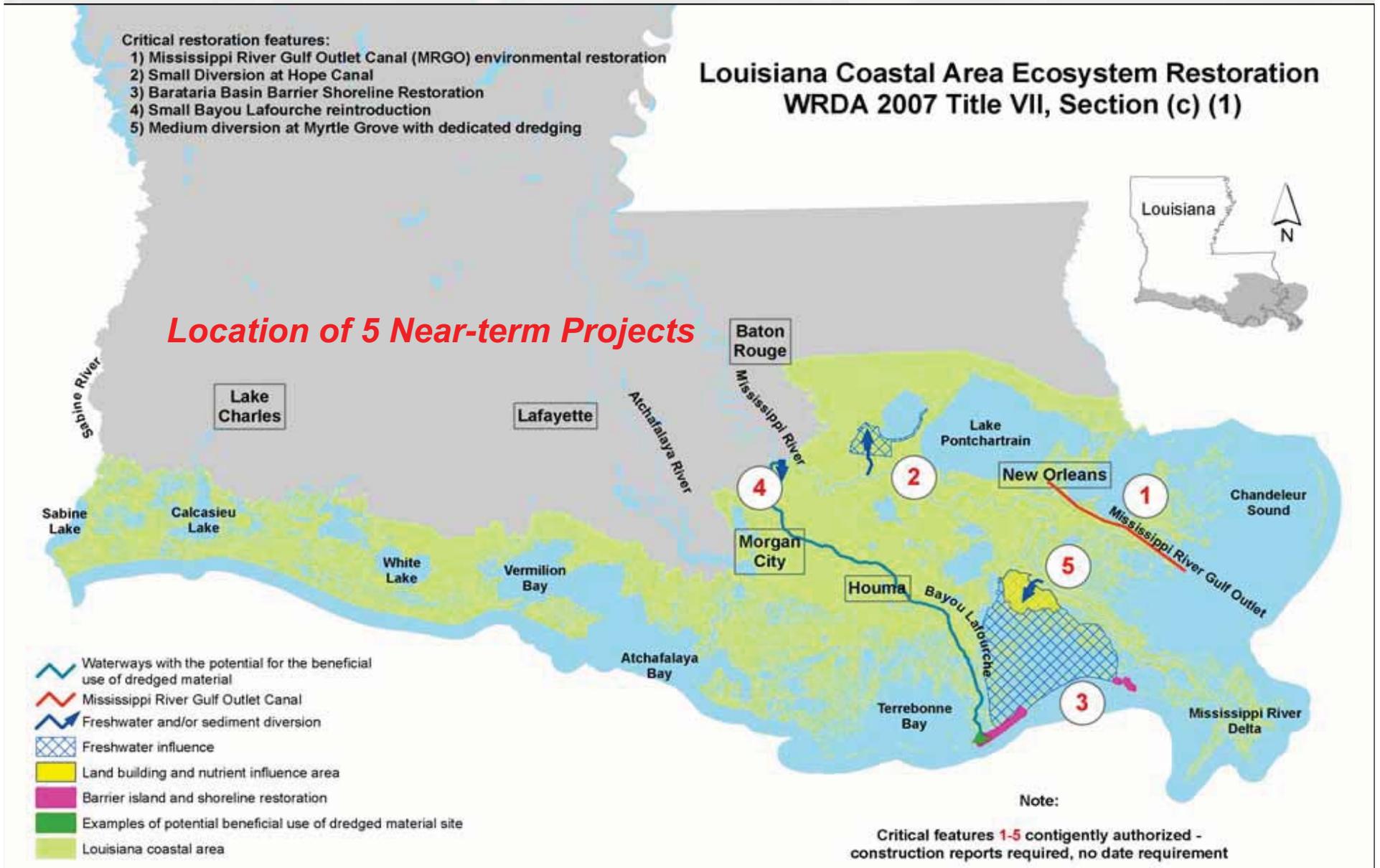
Critical restoration features:

- 1) Mississippi River Gulf Outlet Canal (MRGO) environmental restoration
- 2) Small Diversion at Hope Canal
- 3) Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline Restoration
- 4) Small Bayou Lafourche reintroduction
- 5) Medium diversion at Myrtle Grove with dedicated dredging
- 6) Multipurpose operation of the Houma Navigation Lock
- 7) Terrebonne Basin Barrier Shoreline Restoration
- 8) Convey Atchafalaya River water to northern Terrebonne marshes
- 9) Small Diversion at Convent/Blind River
- 10) Atchafalaya River Diversion Canal Modification
- 11) Medium Diversion at White Ditch
- 12) Gulf Shoreline at Point Au Fer Island
- 13) Land bridge between Caillou Lake and the Gulf of Mexico
- 14) Modification to the Caernarvon diversion
- 15) Modification to Davis Pond diversion

Location of 15 Named Projects



LCA: 5 Near-Term Projects



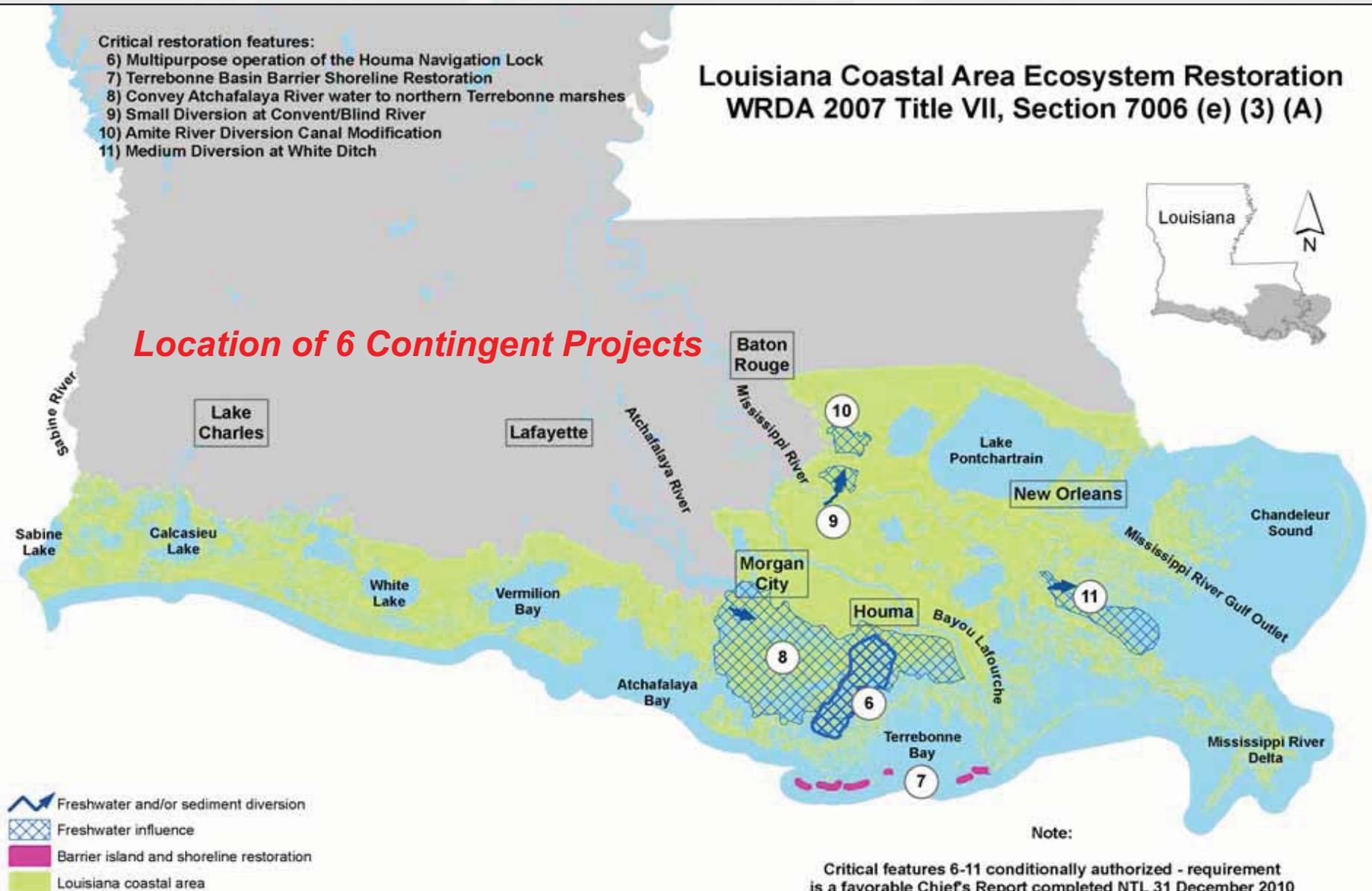
LCA: 6 Contingent Projects

Critical restoration features:

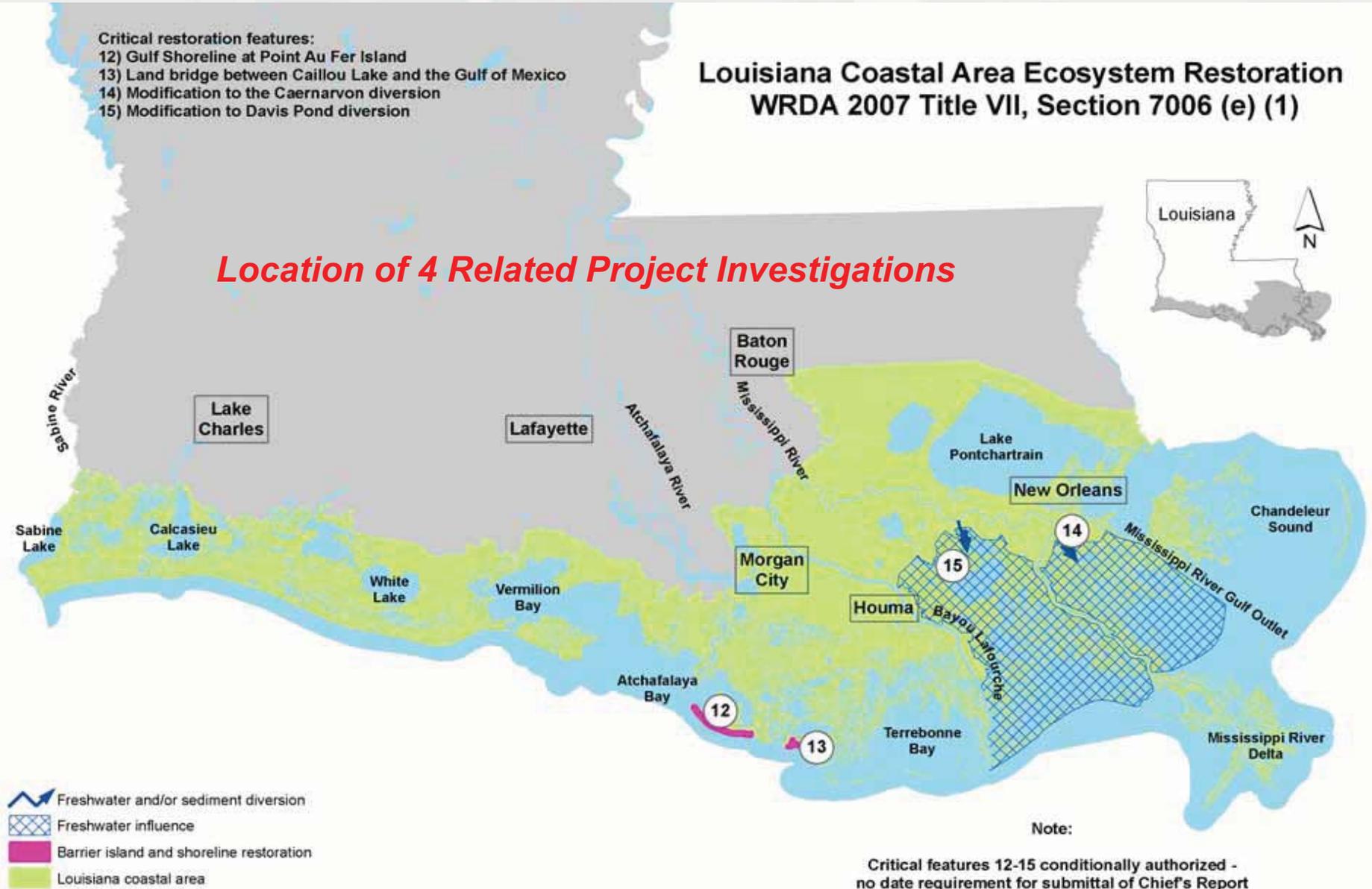
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Louisiana Coastal Area Ecosystem Restoration WRDA 2007 Title VII, Section 7006 (e) (3) (A)

Location of 6 Contingent Projects



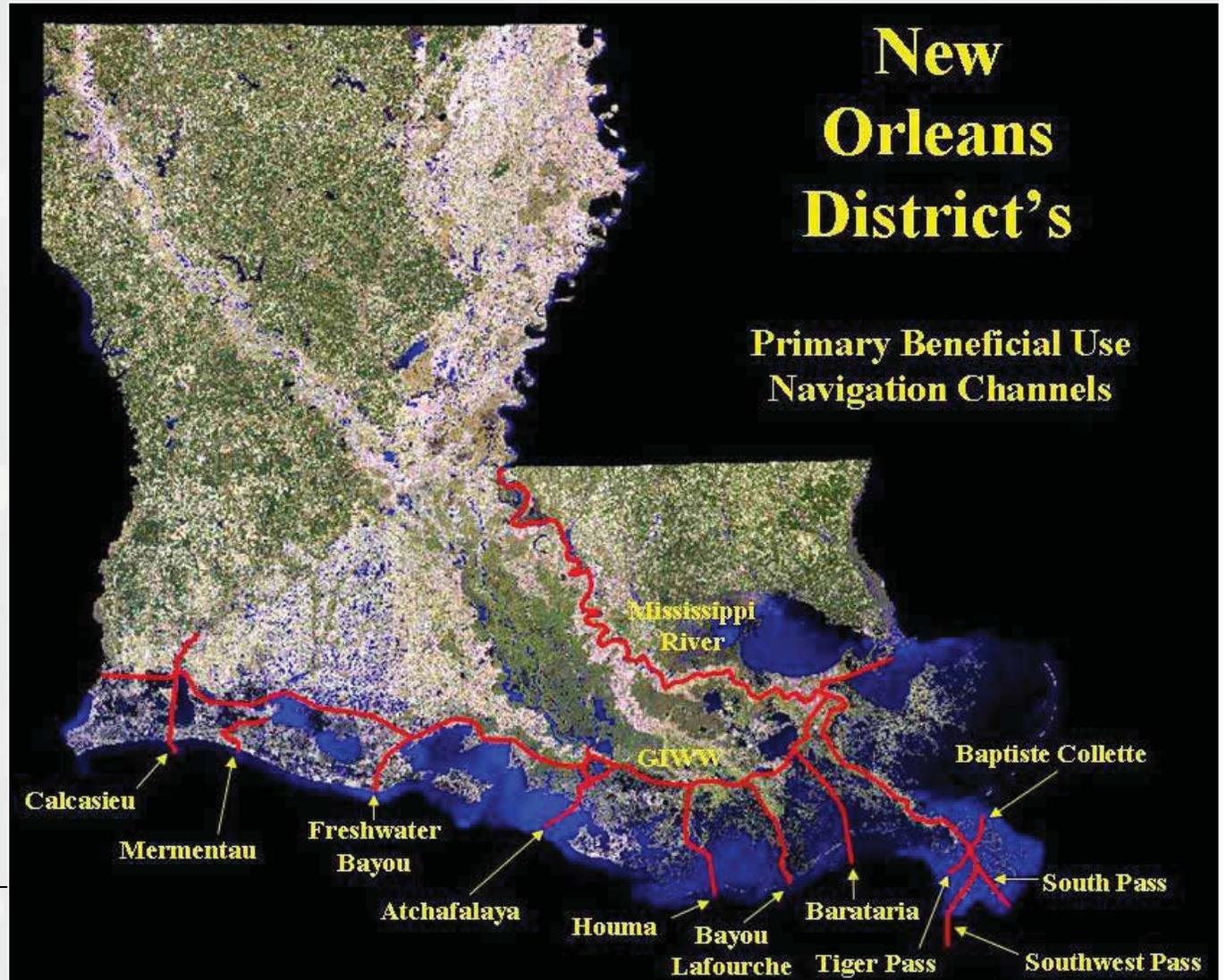
LCA: 4 Related Project Investigations



LCA: BUDMAT Program

A program for the beneficial use of dredged material from Federally-maintained waterways in coastal Louisiana.

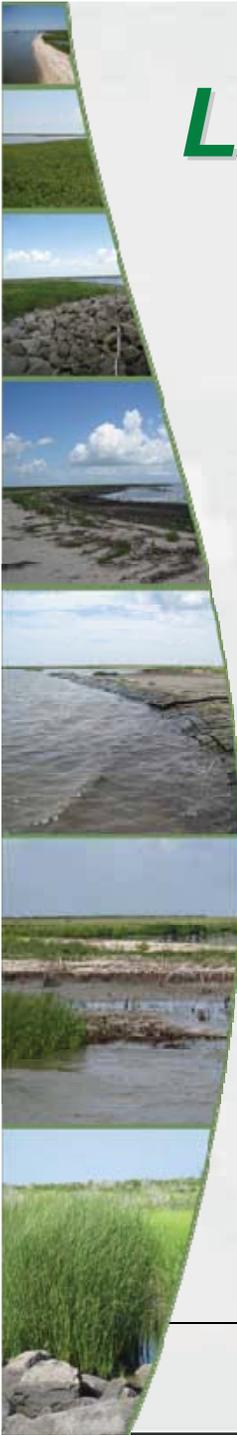
- First construction scheduled for FY11
- Project identification underway
- Funds for construction are subject to annual appropriations



LCA: BUDMAT – Section 204

- List of projects ideally suited to meet BUDMAT objectives and schedule
- Includes projects currently being studied under the Continuing Authorities Program (Section 204)
- Projects, subject to approval and cost share negotiations with the State, are:
 - ▶ Atchafalaya River, Shell Island Pass
 - ▶ Calcasieu River, Mile 5 to 14
 - ▶ Houma Navigation Canal, Wine Island
 - ▶ Houma Navigation Canal, Cat Island Pass
 - ▶ Barataria Bay, Bar Channel

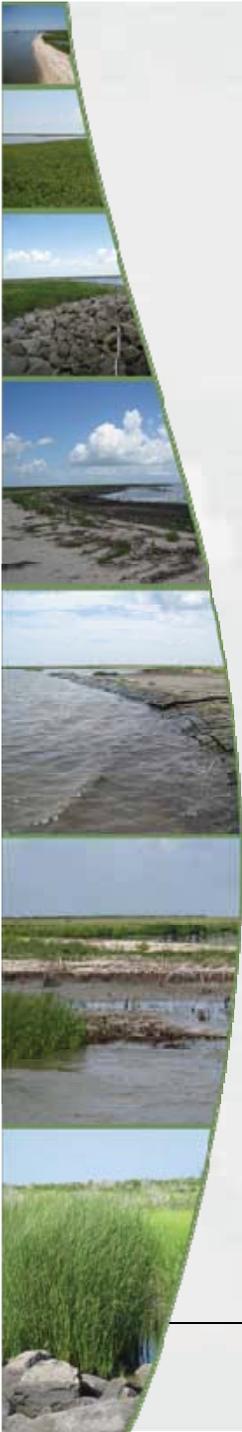




LA Coastal Protection & Restoration

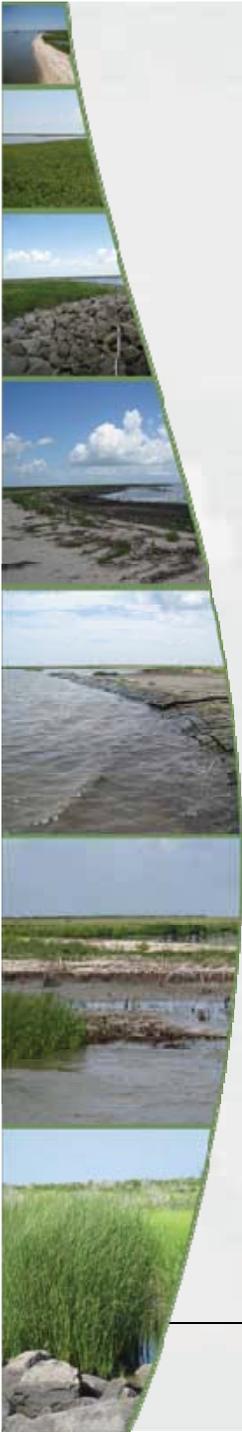
- LACPR identified a variety of alternatives for increased levels of risk reduction
- Focus on five planning units across the Louisiana coast
- Plans include one or more of three types of risk reduction measures:
 - structural
 - nonstructural
 - coastal restoration





Projects in Your Area



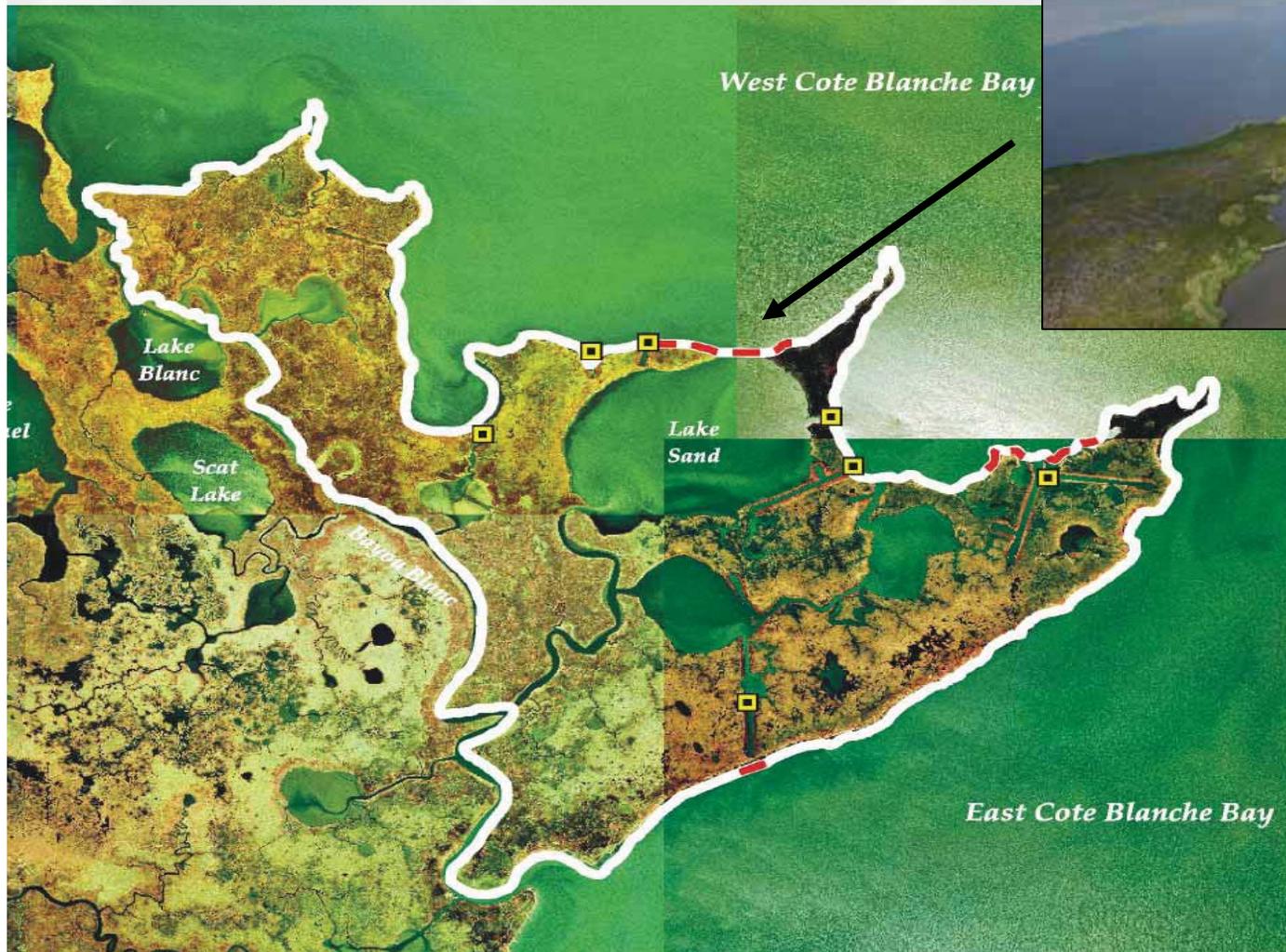


Morgan City Projects In Your Area



Marsh Island Hydrologic Restoration

- CWPPRA Project
- Construction completed December 2001

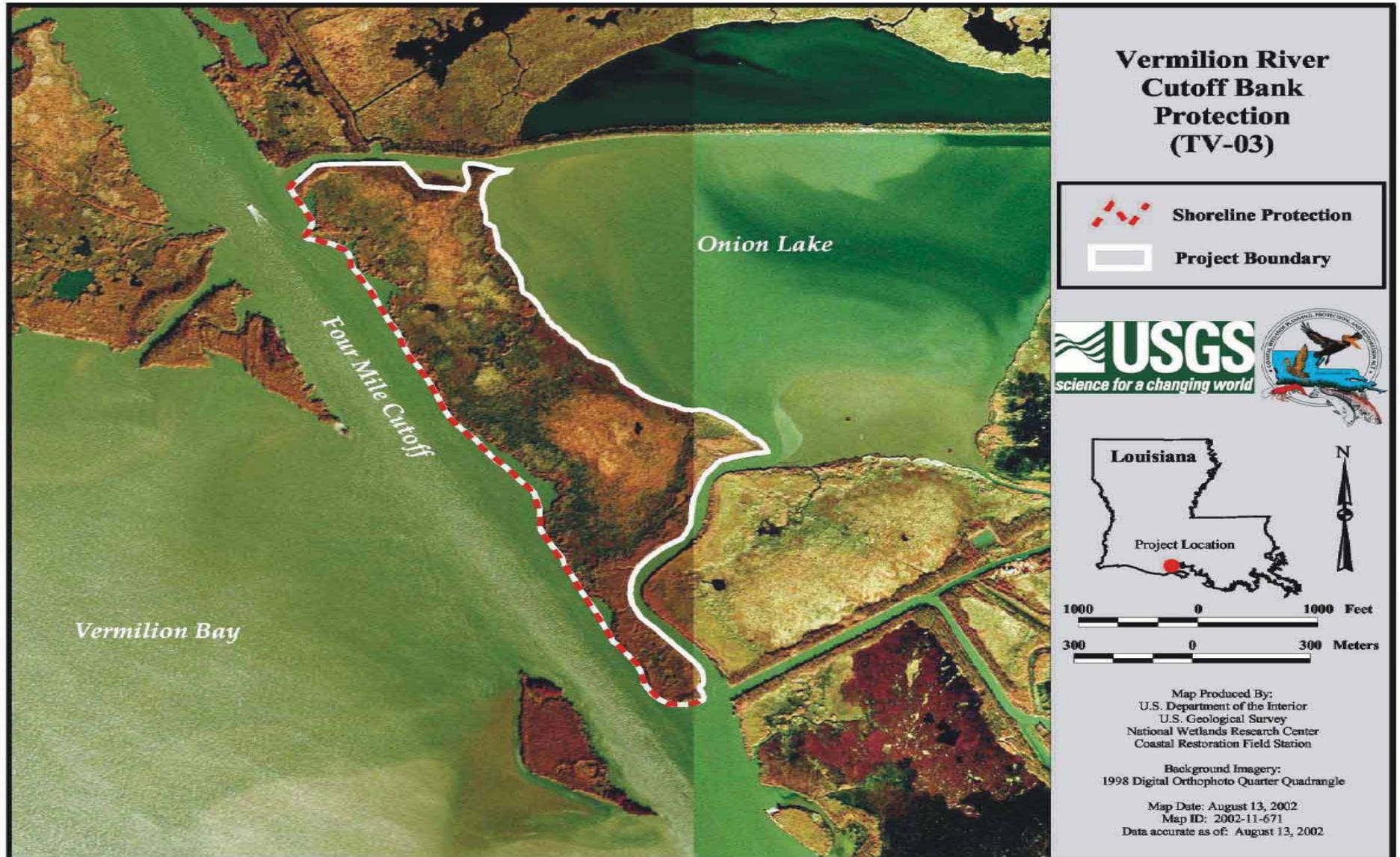


- Located in Iberia Parish, LA
- Surrounds Lake Sand



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Vermilion River Cutoff Bank Protection (TV-03)



Vermilion River Cutoff Bank Protection



Before

- Construction completed in Feb. 1996
- Shoreline protection to protect integrity of Onion Lake wetlands

- CWPPRA Project near Intracoastal City, LA in Vermilion Parish



After

Avoca Island Diversion and Land Building

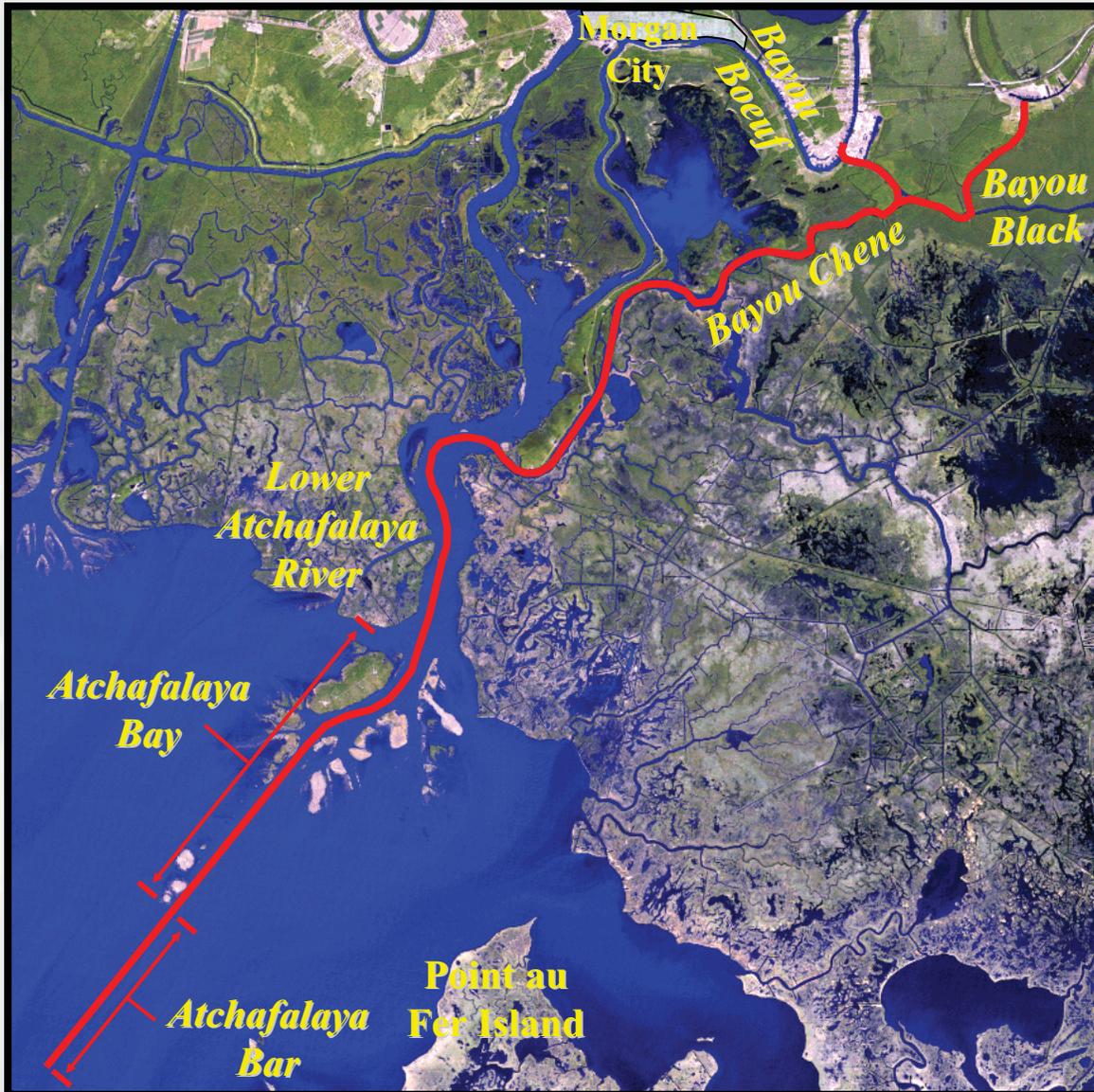
- CWPPRA Freshwater Diversion Project
- In engineering & design phase



- Located in the Avoca Island area in St. Mary Parish
- Project goal to rebuild wetlands through the diversion of fresh water, sediment, and nutrients



Beneficial Use of Dredged Material



Atchafalaya River

***Bayous Chene,
Boeuf, & Black***



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Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
Atchafalaya River - Avoca Island

FY 1998



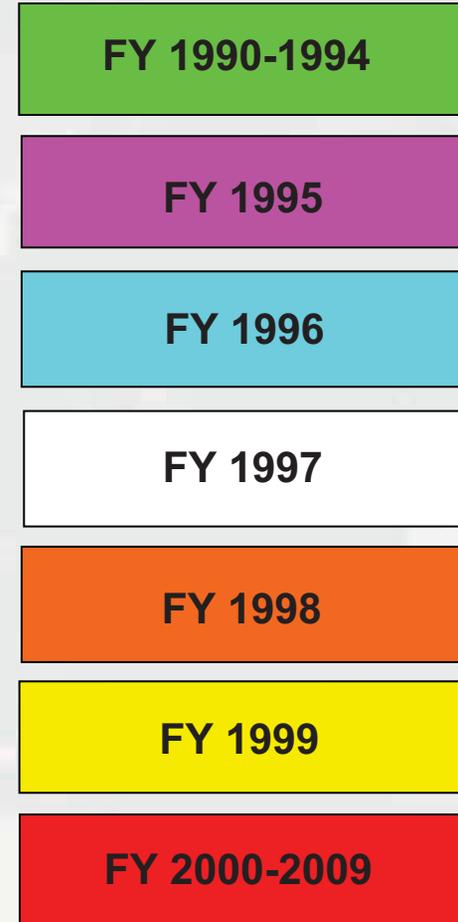
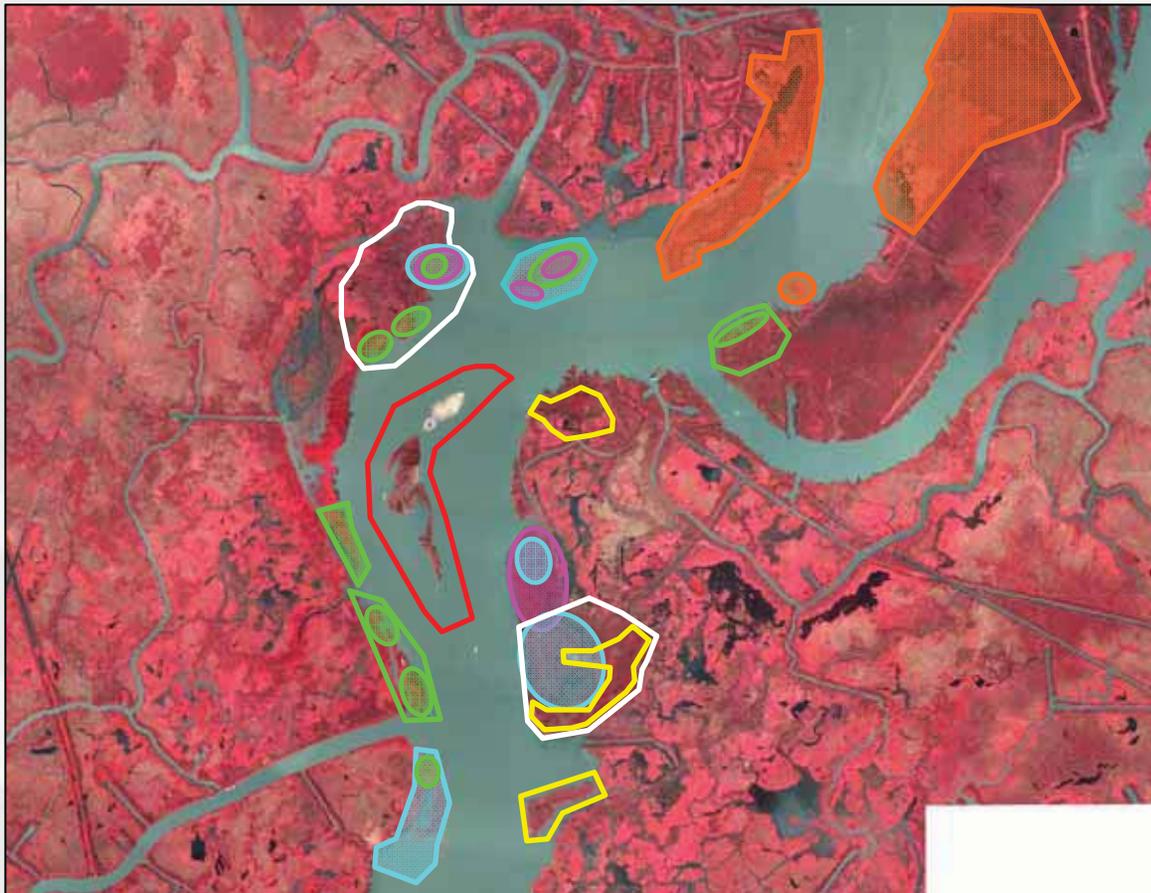
FY 2008



Estimated 1,600 Acres Created



Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Atchafalaya River – Horseshoe



Estimated 1,400 Acres Created



Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Atchafalaya River – Bay and Bar



Pre 1985

FY 1985-1995

FY 1997-2000

FY 2001-2005

FY 2006

FY 2008

Estimated 5,300 Acres Created



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South Central Louisiana Coastal Protection Analysis

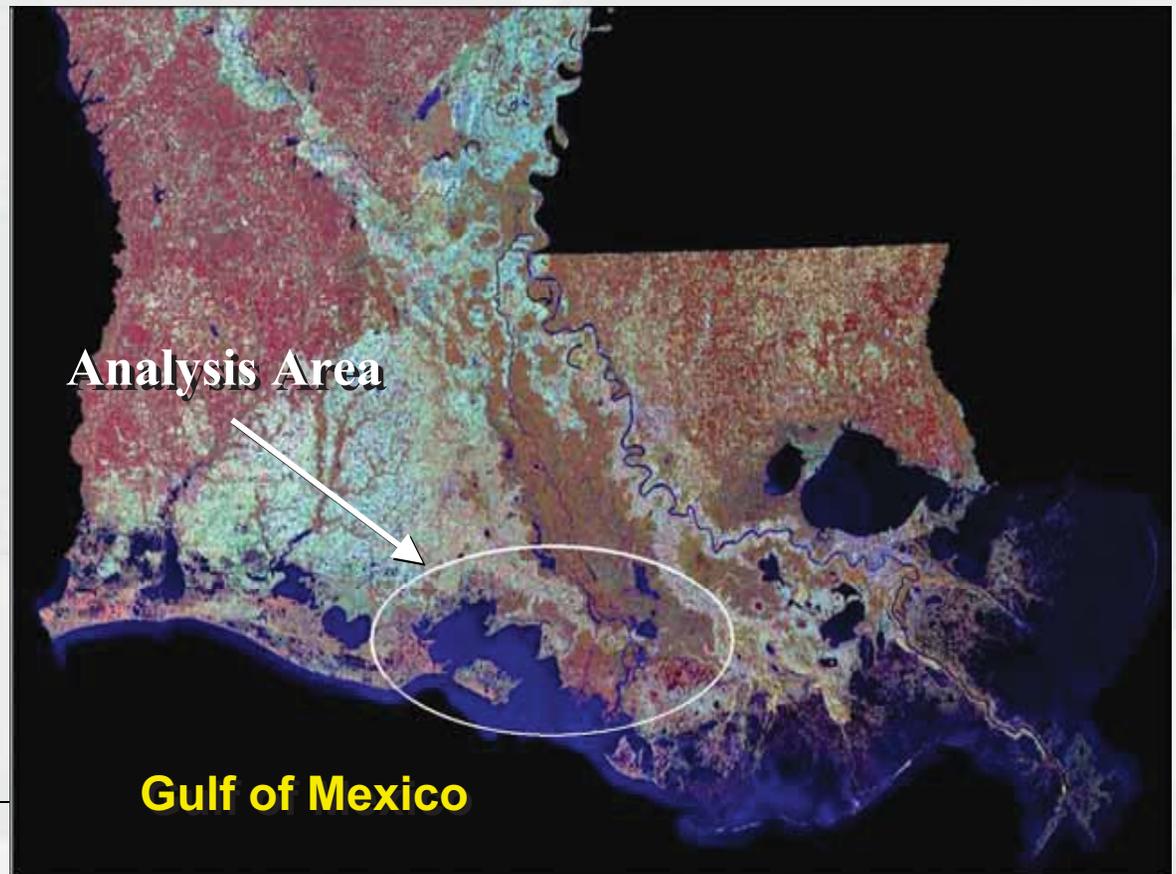
Determining the feasibility of providing hurricane risk reduction for the coastal communities in Iberia, St. Martin and St. Mary parishes

Sponsors:

- Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration
- Iberia, St. Martin, and St. Mary parishes

Path Forward:

- Analysis requires \$100,000 of Federal Funding to conduct a reconnaissance study



Atchafalaya MR&T Conservation Work

- Comprehensive plan for management and preservation of natural resources of the Atchafalaya River Basin
 - ▶ Includes:
 - Environmental Restoration
 - Water Management Units
 - Fish and Wildlife Enhancement
 - Recreational facilities
- Approx. 595,000 acres in area between the East and West Atchafalaya Basin Protection levees



Path Forward

- Public engagement is key
 - Corps of Engineers
 - Congressional representatives
 - State representatives
- Shared responsibility
- Nationwide issue
- Landmark year for coastal restoration



Opportunities for Public Input

- **Make sure to sign in tonight to get on our meeting notification mailing list**
- **Questions and comments may be submitted to:
Telephone: 504-862-2201
[E-mail: AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil](mailto:AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil)**



Resources

www.nolaenvironmental.gov

NOLA Environmental
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
Environmental Compliance Data Bank
www.nolaenvironmental.gov

PROJECTS | MEETINGS | LIBRARY | DATA VIEWER | GET INVOLVED | RELATED LINKS

Welcome to NOLA Environmental! This site has been set up to share with the public the efforts being made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal and state agencies in south Louisiana regarding the environmental compliance for proposed federal and state Hurricane Risk Reduction Projects. Additional information pertaining to other federal and state agencies' hurricane recovery efforts in southeast Louisiana will also be posted on the site as it becomes available.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District implemented Alternative Arrangements on March 13, 2007 under the provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR § 1506.11). Learn more...

FEATURED PROJECT
USACE-MVNY Emergency Alternative Arrangements
Greater New Orleans
Hurricane and Storm Damage
Risk Reduction System Projects

Announcements

- Draft IER 7 Public Comment Period 5/6 - 6/4
- Draft IER 13 Comment Period extended to 5/18
- Draft IER 5 Public Comment Period 5/4 - 6/3
- Draft IER 16 Public Comment Period 5/1 - 5/30
- Draft IER 6 Public Comment Period 4/24 - 5/23
- IER 6 - The Clean Water Act Section 404 Public Notice Comment Period 4/24 - 5/23
- Orleans Parish Pump Station Stormproofing EA #474 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/17 - 5/23
- Jefferson Parish Pump Station Stormproofing EA #475 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/14 - 5/20
- Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period 4/13 - 5/12

Upcoming

- 05/11/2009 - Public Meeting IER 6, 9, 10 and below
- 05/17/2009 - Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period Ends

Newly Available

NEW NOLA Environmental Basic Data Viewer

- News Release 06 May 09 Draft IER 5
- IER 5 - Phase 2 Final Report: Operating Scenario 05/05/09

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District - Microsoft Internet Explorer, provided by USACE, New Orleans District

US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

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Floodwall
Building more bigger, stronger, better. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is partnering to work ahead of time to minimize the storm and storm damage risk reduction system (SDRS) by 2012. To this end, the Corps is using valuable resources learned to construct more resilient levees and floodwalls.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Learn more about what the Corps is doing to reduce risk. [LEARN MORE](#) about what the Corps is doing to reduce risk. [EMERGENCY INFORMATION](#) Flood Damages, Disaster Response, Public Information and More.

Featured Videos

Meet Orleans Complex learn more about the alternative under construction to reduce risk on the Warrenton. [Watch](#)

Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System From levees to canals, structural, find all links about system features.

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West Belle Pass Headland Restoration

- CWPPRA project
- Construction completed July 1998
- Located just west of Port Fourchon, LA in Lafourche Parish
- Shoreline protection and dredged material used for marsh nourishment

