

Cameron Parish Police Jury



Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

Prepared by:

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Stream Wetland Services, LLC
Tetra Tech, Inc.*

September 2, 2025

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Acronyms

BUDMAT	Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
CIAP	Coastal Impact Assistance Program
CPCRPA	Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration & Protection Authority
CPRA	Coastal Protection Restoration Authority
CRC	Coastal Restoration Committee
CUP	Coastal Use Permit
CWG	Coastal Working Group
CWPPRA	Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act
DEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
DOTD	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FDT	Framework Development Team
GIWW	Gulf Intracoastal Waterway
GOMESA	Gulf of Mexico (America) Energy Security Act
LA	Louisiana Highway
LDWF	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
NAWCA	North American Wetlands Conservation Act
NDSI	No Direct and Significant Impact
NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRDA	Natural Resources Damage Assessment
OCM	Office of Coastal Management
OCRT	Louisiana Office of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Society
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act

Section 1.0 Introduction and Objective

1.1 Introduction

A people's culture is tied to the landscape – a bond nowhere better exhibited than in Cameron Parish. For generations, local families have relied on hunting, fishing, farming, ranching, and recreation, not only for their livelihoods but also as traditions that define community gatherings and festivals that have thrived since the earliest settlements. Oil and gas, petrochemical, chemical, and navigation interests have strengthened the economy and enhanced the cultural landscape. This '2025 Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection' (PLAN) seeks to balance the economic benefits of industry and commerce with the need to protect and restore vital natural resources and habitats, ensuring that both can thrive for future generations. Community members have and will play an active role in shaping and implementing these initiatives, drawing on their knowledge and traditions to guide sustainable economic and ecological developments.

Following the inaugural publication of Cameron Parish's PLAN in 2014, with assistance from the Coastal Restoration Committee (CRC) (Appendix A), the State released their 2017 and 2023 Annual Master Plans providing a status of statewide coastal restoration and protection issues. The State Plan is a living document that is updated every six years. This ensures that the latest science, data, and interested and affected parties' considerations are incorporated to continuously improve the master plan's impact and make the case for additional funding. This Parish PLAN will be updated every five or six years, in coordination with the State's six-year update schedule, ensuring local needs and priorities and community needs are addressed at both levels. While the State Plan addresses state-wide coastal issues, the Parish PLAN focuses specifically on local priorities within Cameron Parish. Having Cameron Parish project ideas approved by and included in the State Master Plan makes the projects eligible for state and federal funding and support. Both Plans invite local stakeholders to participate in workshops and submit project proposals, which are then evaluated for inclusion in both Parish and State plans. After a master plan is approved, individuals, government partners, and other champions work to secure funding, design, and ultimately build projects.



Figure 1 Comprehensive Plan for CPRA Process

This 2025 PLAN draws on insights from both the 2017 and 2023 State Master Plans, integrating updated strategies based on progress and challenges identified since 2014. For example, the 2025 PLAN places greater emphasis on adaptive management practices and community engagement in response to lessons learned from recent storm events. Adaptive management practices refer to flexible approaches that adjust strategies based on new information and changing conditions. The PLAN further reflects current priorities by addressing recent changes in the landscape and coastal restoration and protection efforts. During recent workshops residents actively participated by identifying priority areas for flood protection and proposing specific project ideas, which have been incorporated into this PLAN. This ensures that community perspectives directly shape both current actions and future updates.

Since implementing the PLAN, Parish has benefitted thousands of acres of marshland and improved shoreline protection for three beach communities.

1.2 Project Goals and Objectives

The Cameron Parish Police Jury with engagement from the general public, stakeholders, and landowners have initiated this project to provide input concerning Cameron Parish's Coastal Protection and Restoration plan. The plan is to identify, develop, and implement coastal restoration and protection processes and projects for Cameron Parish.

The goals of the Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection include:

1. To develop strategies to implement those projects that create, protect, restore, and enhance ecosystems and provide hurricane and storm damage reduction.
2. Provide a guide for future strategic planning efforts on the regional, state, and federal level.
3. Identifying all available funding sources for coastal restoration and protection projects in Cameron Parish.
4. Develop prioritization criteria for all coastal restoration and protection projects for Cameron Parish.

The primary objective of the Cameron Parish Police Jury's 2025 PLAN is to provide a blueprint to ensure a sustainable future and long-term preservation of the Parish's unique landscape.

The following objectives have been identified:

- Reduce and protect against flood-related damage
- Harness natural processes for resiliency and sustainability
- Restore and protect coastal habitats
- Sustain unique cultural heritage and infrastructure
- Promote a viable working coast

This PLAN also documents and addresses challenges such as coastal erosion, sea-level rise, subsidence, and storm impacts. We have revised the 2025 PLAN to focus on sustainable developments, climate resilience, and to streamline and improve processes such as project evaluation criteria and community engagement strategies. This includes capturing, designing, funding, awarding, successfully completing, maintaining, and supporting projects using the best available science, engineering and technologies.

To further strengthen these efforts, the 2025 PLAN emphasizes the need for robust data management and communication systems among stakeholders. This is best achieved by creating and supporting an interactive web-based Geographic Information System (GIS), which will serve as a comprehensive project repository and directory on the Parish website, providing immediate and interactive access to the PLAN and project lists. By making project data openly available and updated, stakeholders can quickly respond to changes in environmental conditions, regulations, and/or funding opportunities. An integral part of this approach is improving coordination with local communities and residents, regional partners, and state and federal agencies to monitor project outcomes and share lessons learned. Recognizing the dynamic nature of both the coastal ecosystem and the restoration initiatives, the 2025 PLAN encourages alignment, or consistency with FY 2023 and 2029 Coastal Master Plan Project development programs as project screening tools for the Parish.

Stakeholder engagement will remain a cornerstone in the maintenance of the PLAN, ensuring that important perspectives are brought into conversations about funding, project selection, adaptive management strategies, and planning. Their input directly influences decisions, ensuring that the PLAN stays comprehensive and thorough. Through continuous learning and collaboration, Cameron Parish looks to remain at the forefront of coastal restoration and protection, adapting responsively to both environmental pressures and opportunities for innovation.

The 2025 PLAN is a dynamic document and includes the entire landscape of Cameron Parish (Appendix B, Appendix C). The impact of this comprehensive approach on the well-being of the Parish's diverse ecological and physical landscapes is immense and cannot be overstated. By embracing innovation, community involvement, and adaptability, Cameron Parish sets a standard that can inspire communities far beyond its borders. This PLAN will create a coastal working group to continue to develop projects and identify funding opportunities.

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Section 2.0 Environmental Conditions

2.1 Parish Geography

Understanding the unique geographical setting and environmental diversity of Cameron Parish’s physical landscape is essential for effective restoration and protection strategies now and in the coming years. The natural features, environmental conditions, and human activities have shaped and will influence the region’s character and vulnerabilities.



A careful examination of the Parish’s topography, hydrology, geology, and ecological systems reveals the intricate interplay between land and water that defines its identity. The following overview of environmental conditions provides framework for the ongoing challenges and opportunities facing the parish, forming the foundation for adaptive management and sustainable development in the years ahead.

Cameron Parish is in the southwest corner of Louisiana, bordered by Calcasieu Parish to the north, Vermilion Parish to the east, and by the Gulf of America and the Sabine River to the south and west. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Cameron Parish covers 1,937 square miles, of which 1,285 square miles is land and 652 square miles (34%) is water. It is the third-largest parish in Louisiana by land area and fourth largest by total area.

The Parish’s landscape is further characterized by two major types of landforms, the older Pleistocene Prairie Complex in the extreme northern part of the parish, and the Chenier Plain in the south.

The Pleistocene Prairie Complex is juxtaposed against the low-lying marshes, lakes, and cheniers of the Chenier Plain. The marshes are rich and diverse and teem with life grading from fresh, intermediate, brackish, and salt types, based upon their connectivity and proximity to fresh and saltwater sources. In Cameron Parish, the contiguous expanses of marsh are flanked from east to west by three large lakes: Grand Lake, Calcasieu Lake, and Sabine Lake.

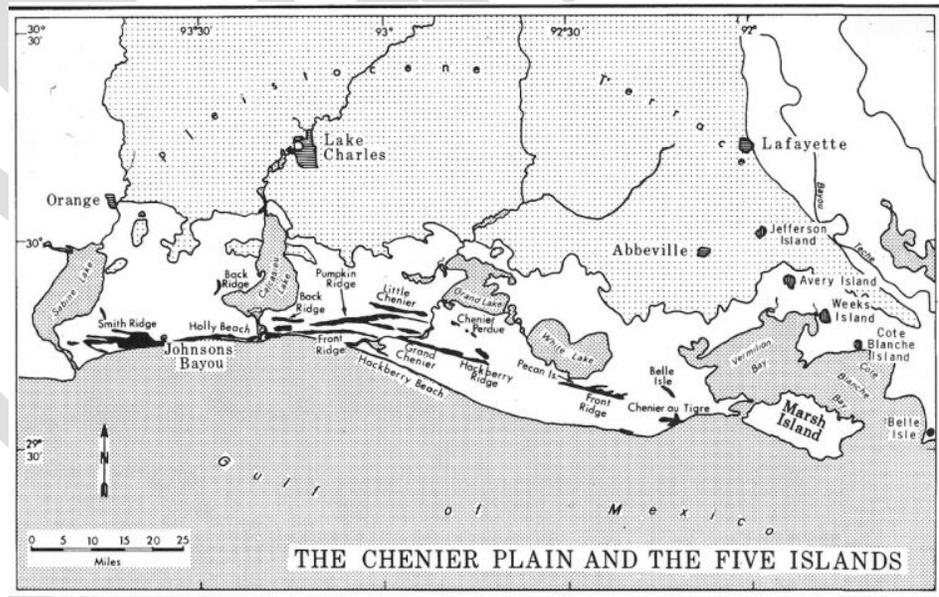


Figure 2 Geomorphology of the Mississippi River Chenier Plain. Penland 1989.

These three large lakes are not only natural wonders but also provide vital habitats for diverse species and play a crucial role in supporting local fisheries and recreation.

The lakes are relict features marking the location of historic river valleys. Relic features are remnants of past landscapes, and the Pleistocene Prairie Complex refers to ancient grasslands exposed during the

last ice age. These valleys were scoured onto the exposed Pleistocene Prairie Complex by high-energy, ancient regional river systems - the Mermentau, Calcasieu, and Sabine rivers - when sea level was much lower and the shoreline was over one hundred miles further south.

During this low stand in sea level, when the shoreline was far south of its current location, the rivers eroded valleys as deep as 100 to 120 feet. This occurred according to H.N. Fisk's 1948 study, "Geological Investigation of the Lower Mermentau River Basin and Adjacent Areas in Coastal Louisiana". This study focused on the area where the lakes are currently located. As sea levels rose the shoreline retreated northward towards land. Consequently, the ancient Mermentau, Calcasieu, and Sabine rivers transitioned from high energy systems that eroded their banks and scoured the land surface, to low energy systems. These low energy river systems flowed slowly and carried less sediment in the river valleys and meandered over the scoured landscape, depositing a thin layer of fine-grained clayey deposits.

Those ancient river valleys have thicker sections of sediments deposited by the low energy river systems compared to the land between the scoured valleys (the marshes between the lakes). The thickest sections of the sediments are located along a north south axis that bisects the lakes. The thickness of these soft sediments decreases progressively to the east and west of this center axis, tapering to a thin veneer along the edges of the lakes and adjacent marshes.

Grand Lake, Calcasieu Lake, and Sabine Lake are flanked to the south by a series of ridges that parallel the shore. These ridges are termed cheniers. In French, "chene" means oak, and, as such, the cheniers are ridges forested with oak trees. Cheniers are extraordinary geomorphic features that characterize the southern part of the parish and for which Cameron Parish is well known. These natural formations are significant because they provide unique and valuable habitat for various wildlife species and serve as natural barriers against storm surge and coastal erosion. The most prominent cheniers include Grand Chenier, Front Ridge, Little Chenier, and Chenier Purdue.

The cheniers ribbon through the mudflats and consist of ridges of sand and shell hash, grouped in bundles that parallel the coast. The oldest ridges are farthest inland, and they become progressively younger toward the present shoreline. According to Darwin Spearing, in "Roadside Geology of Louisiana," the chenier plain is "a flat expanse of low marsh and mudflats about 120 miles long and 12 miles wide."

The chenier plain formed in the past few thousand years, after sea level rose to about its present level. When the Mississippi River established a westerly course, copious quantities of reworked riverine

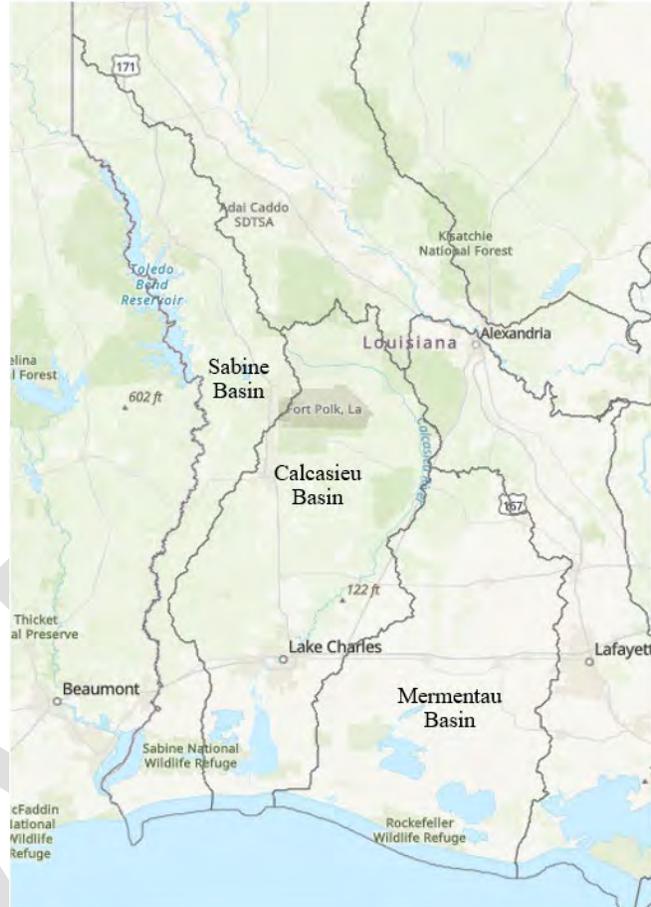


Figure 3 Regional Drainage Systems influencing Cameron Parish

sediment were deposited along the gulf shore. This resulted in southerly growth of the shoreline. When the Mississippi River shifted to an easterly course, the sediment supply decreased. Consequently, erosive forces became greater than sediment deposition due to littoral drift. As a result, the shoreline converted to a more typical beach-like nature and gradually retreated. The areas between the cheniers were collecting points for water, gradually building up with rich, decomposing, and regenerating plant material over time. These lush interior marsh areas occasionally received fresh pulses of mineral sediment input due to powerful storm tides.

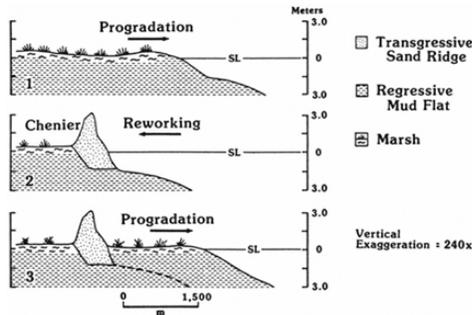


Figure 4 Schematic of Chenier Plain Progradation

The repetitive occurrence of these pulses of sediment due to storm tides and changes in the Mississippi River’s course helped to build the systems of cheniers in the basin. The progradation process served to establish an undulating landform along the gulf coast with elevations of the cheniers typically 5 to 6 feet above sea level and the alternating marshes between 0 to 2 feet above sea level.

The ridges and mudflats of the Chenier Plain are incised by three rivers: the Mermentau, Calcasieu, and Sabine. These rivers drain the majority of Cameron Parish. Each of these rivers has its own watershed, which is an area of land that drains into the river or its associated wetlands. The

Mermentau Watershed is defined by Louisiana Highway (LA) 82 (Vermilion Parish) to the east and by LA 27 to the west. The Calcasieu Watershed is defined by LA 27 to the east and by the higher ground of Perry/Gum Cove Ridge, located north of Johnson Bayou. The Sabine Watershed is bounded on the east by the Calcasieu Watershed and the La. State line to the west. All three watersheds descend from adjacent parishes north of Cameron Parish.

Combined, the coastal area of these three watersheds consists of 762,500 acres of wetlands. This includes:

- 222,800 acres of fresh marsh
- 247,000 acres of intermediate marsh
- 259,200 acres of brackish marsh
- and 9,500 acres of salt marsh.

2.2 Hydrologic Alterations

Prior to human alterations, delta-building processes associated with the Mississippi River resulted in periodic building of marsh along the gulf coast of the Mermentau Basin. Construction of flood control and navigation projects on the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers restricted those natural processes to small portions of the coast. Consequently, marsh building now occurs on only the easternmost part of the Mermentau Basin coastline. Subsidence, or the gradual sinking of land, further contributes to rising water levels. In the Mermentau Basin, relative sea level rise results in an average water level rise of 0.25 inches per year. Although natural wetland building processes only occur along the eastern shore, natural marsh maintenance processes (e.g., plant deterioration and regeneration) can be effective at keeping wetland loss rates low. However, these processes have been altered or interrupted, and the ability of the system to support the marsh is jeopardized. This threatens wildlife habitats and increases vulnerability to flooding, highlighting the need for projects that mimic or restore natural sediment deposition.

Historically freshwater sources from the headwaters of the Calcasieu and Sabine watersheds fed water from the upland areas into the estuaries. An estuary is a partially enclosed coastal body of brackish water with one or more rivers or bayous flowing into it. Also, artesian conditions (where underground water flows to the surface) of the Chicot Aquifer pumped freshwater from the subsurface into the estuaries. The abundant supply of freshwater was held in the marshes due to the narrow and shallow passes at the mouths of the Calcasieu and Sabine rivers. Wetland loss within the Chenier Plain is largely the result of alterations to the historic hydrologic regime. Navigation and access channels, along with highways, have altered the historic flow of freshwater into and out of the estuaries. As a result, they now dominate the hydrology (the movement and distribution of water) of this area. These changes have led to excessive flooding and saltwater intrusion, which in turn stress marshes and accelerate land loss through erosion. Saltwater intrusion occurs when seawater encroaches into plant communities adapted to lower salinity levels. Excessive flooding exposes organic soils supporting the fresher marshes to saltier water, thereby stressing the marshes. This exposure also leads to the marsh edge being subjected to erosional forces, which transport the organic soils (soils rich in organic matter) out of the inner marshes.

Primary hydrologic alterations are:

- The Calcasieu Ship Channel is maintained at a depth of 40 feet and a width of 400 feet wide and extends from the Gulf of America to the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana. Similarly, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) is maintained at a depth of 12 feet deep and a width of 125 feet. Notably, the reach of the GIWW between the Sabine River and the Calcasieu Ship Channel was dredged to a depth of 30 feet in 1927. Erosion is a significant problem along the banks of those major navigation channels, leading to growing concerns about the stability and maintenance of the waterways. This issue requires ongoing monitoring and maintenance to prevent further degradation and ensure safe navigation.
- The hydrology of the marshes between Sabine and Calcasieu lakes has also been altered by numerous access canals. The GIWW and network of canals have established a hydrologic connection between the Sabine and Calcasieu estuaries. Additionally, several bayous which once drained adjacent marshes into either of the estuaries have been connected to one another. Consequently, marshes between Sabine and Calcasieu Lakes have become a large interlinked system with water draining and circulating to the northern, eastern, and western portions of this area. Erosion is also a problem along the shores of Calcasieu and Sabine lakes.
- The Sabine-Neches Waterway, between the Gulf of America and Port Arthur, Texas, is maintained at a depth of 48 feet deep and a width of 400 feet. The USACE began deepening the waterway from 40 feet to 48 feet in 2019. This project will increase the connection between the Sabine and Calcasieu estuaries, raising salinity concentrations further inland. It will also increase erosion and stress to the marshes next to the waterway.
- The Catfish Point Control Structure, built to reduce saltwater intrusion into Grand Lake via the Mermentau River, controls the major drainage outlet from Grand Lake. High water levels in the gulf often prevent the lake from draining through this structure. Farther upstream, development and channelization of the Mermentau River watershed have increased the rate of run-off into the Grand Lake. These factors, in combination with the loss or impairment of historic drainage outlets, result in periods of prolonged high-water levels following heavy basin-wide precipitation. For example, during the heavy rains of 2020, water levels in Grand Lake remained high for several weeks due to these combined factors causing flooding of homes, farmland, and impacts to wildlife habitat.
- The Freshwater Bayou navigation channel has altered the historic drainage pattern in the eastern portion of the Mermentau watershed, leading to increased flooding during heavy rains.

The numerous blockages of drainage outlets significantly increase ponding in the area affecting infrastructure and habitat.

- A 5-mile-long segment of LA 27 almost totally blocks drainage from the western portion of the Mermentau watershed into adjacent wetlands of the Calcasieu/Sabine Basin. These blockages collectively contribute to the significant ponding and flooding issues. The difference in water elevation between the north side of Highway 27 and the south side can exceed two feet after heavy rainfall.
- Similarly, along the southern boundary of the Chenier Plain, Louisiana Highway 82 blocks drainage across 17 miles of marsh, affecting the local ecosystem in excessive ponding and the retardation of natural sheet flow.
- Flood control projects on the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers, and construction of jetties on the Mermentau River, Calcasieu Ship Channel, and at Sabine Pass, have altered longshore sediment transport and consequently reduced sediment availability.

2.3 Coastal Land Loss

Subsidence and sea level rise are natural processes that contribute to wetland deterioration and loss, even under pristine conditions. Natural marsh building (the accumulation of sediment and plant material that helps form and maintain marshes) is resilient in maintaining coastal marshes despite subsidence and sea level rise. However, anthropogenic (influence of human beings on nature) activities have disrupted the hydrologic regime (pattern of water movement in an area) and sea level rise continues to increase at an average of 0.25 inches per year in Sabine Lake.

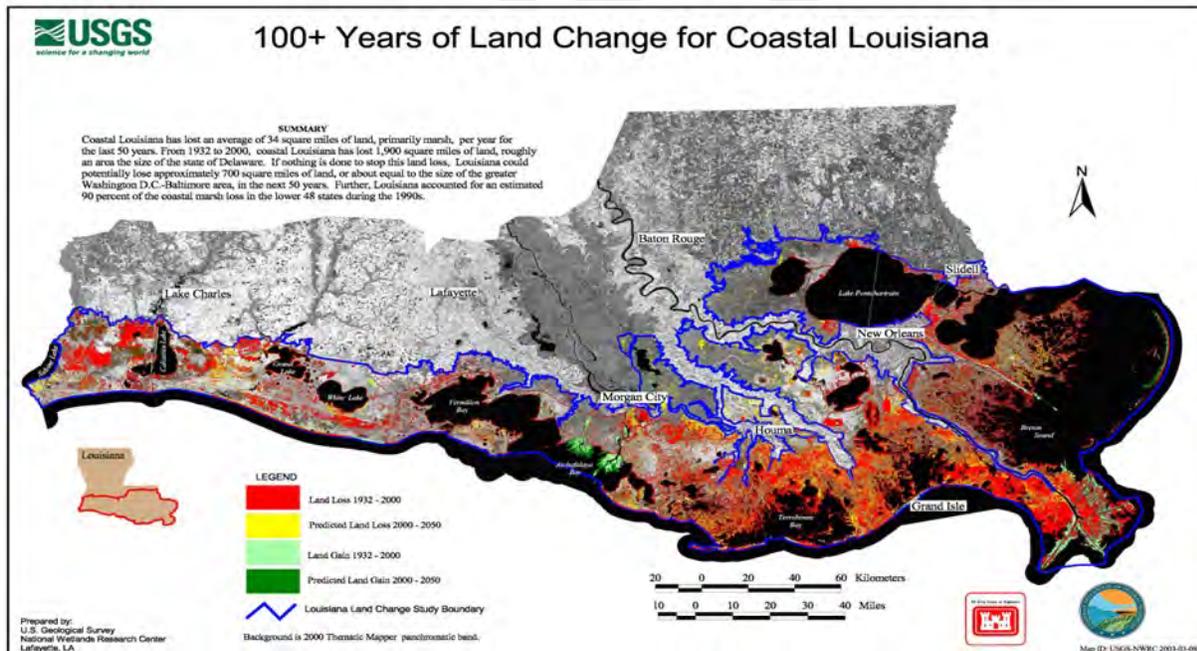


Figure 5. Coastal Louisiana Land Loss Rates.

Lakeshore erosion and subsequent breaching threatens adjacent marshes because of the vulnerability of typically weaker soils in those areas and increased water exchange, as well as saltwater intrusion. Along the Gulf of America, shoreline retreat is causing the loss of back-beach marshes and threatens to further alter the hydrology of interior marshes. The current state of land loss is estimated to be about one acre - or that of a football field - every 38 minutes in Louisiana (Figure 5).

The loss of over 1,900 square miles of wetlands since 1932 is a sobering statistic for all coastal parishes. Once thriving wetland areas have since been converted to open water. The wetlands that were lost provided a wide range of benefits and ecosystem services including flood protection, enhancing water quality, wildlife and nursery habitat, and providing barriers for oil and natural gas pipelines.

Approximately 23 percent of Cameron’s wetlands have been lost since 1932. Surprisingly, Cameron Parish’s coastline is regressing but not at the rate as in other parts of the State. The series of ridges along the shoreline protect from marine forces of erosion and the presence of firm, compacted clay-rich soils of the Prairie Complex in the shallow subsurface counterbalance the effects of subsidence, contributing to the resiliency of the Cameron Parish Coastal Zone area. Land loss in Cameron is mainly due to increased salinities and saltwater intrusion through major navigational channels that connect highly saline gulf waters with fresh and intermediate marshes. The land loss rates for the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin were 7.2 square miles a year from 1956-1978. For the twelve-year period from 1978-1990, the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin land loss rate showed a significant decrease for land loss with the number improving to 2.6 square miles a year (Figure 6).

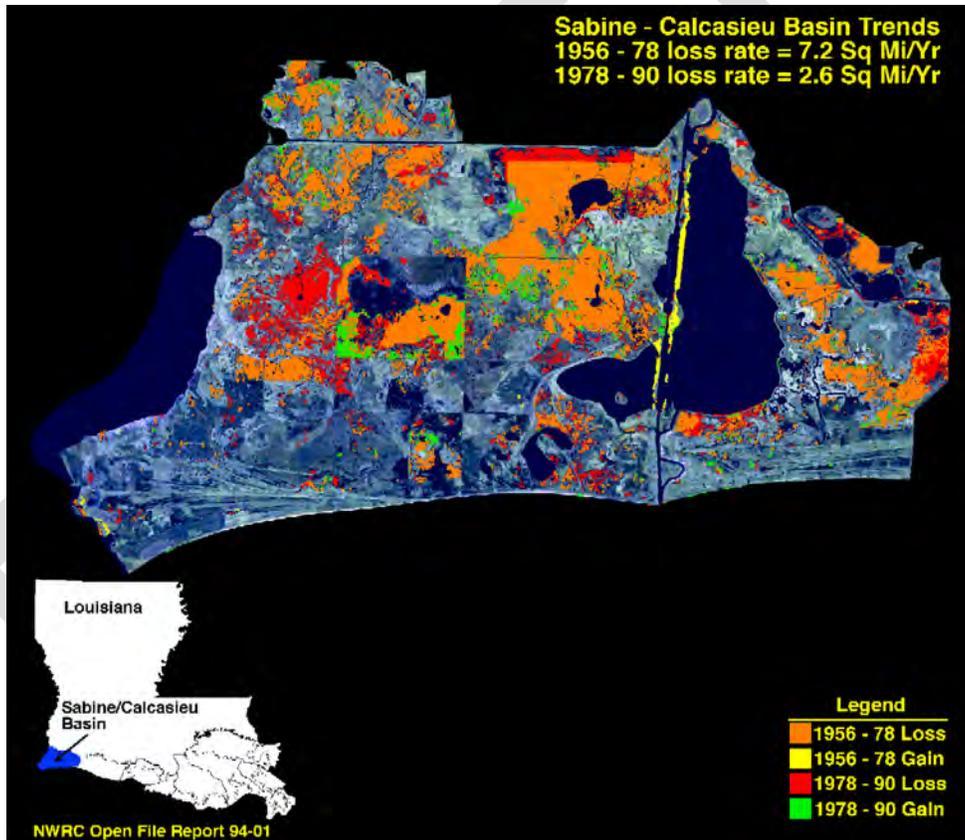


Figure 6 Calcasieu – Sabine Land Loss Rates

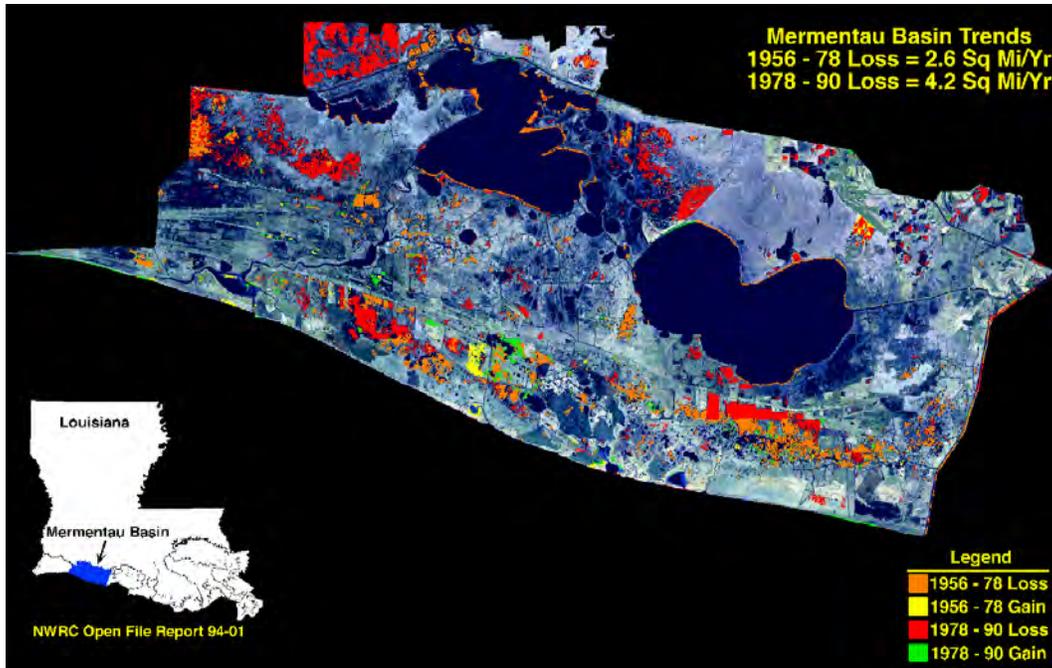


Figure 7 Mermentau Basin Land Loss Rates

Similar land loss rates are reported in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin Summary report (Dec 2019) by CPRA. The Mermentau Basin was experiencing much less significant land loss rates at 2.6 square miles a year from 1956-1978. However, the Mermentau Basin did not see the decrease in land loss rates experienced in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin. The land loss rates for the Mermentau Basin from 1978-1990 were 4.2 square miles a year. (Figure 7). Land loss rates in the Mermentau Basin during 1978-1990 and 2005-2016 were most likely attributed to ongoing Gulf of America shoreline erosion (Dec 2019).

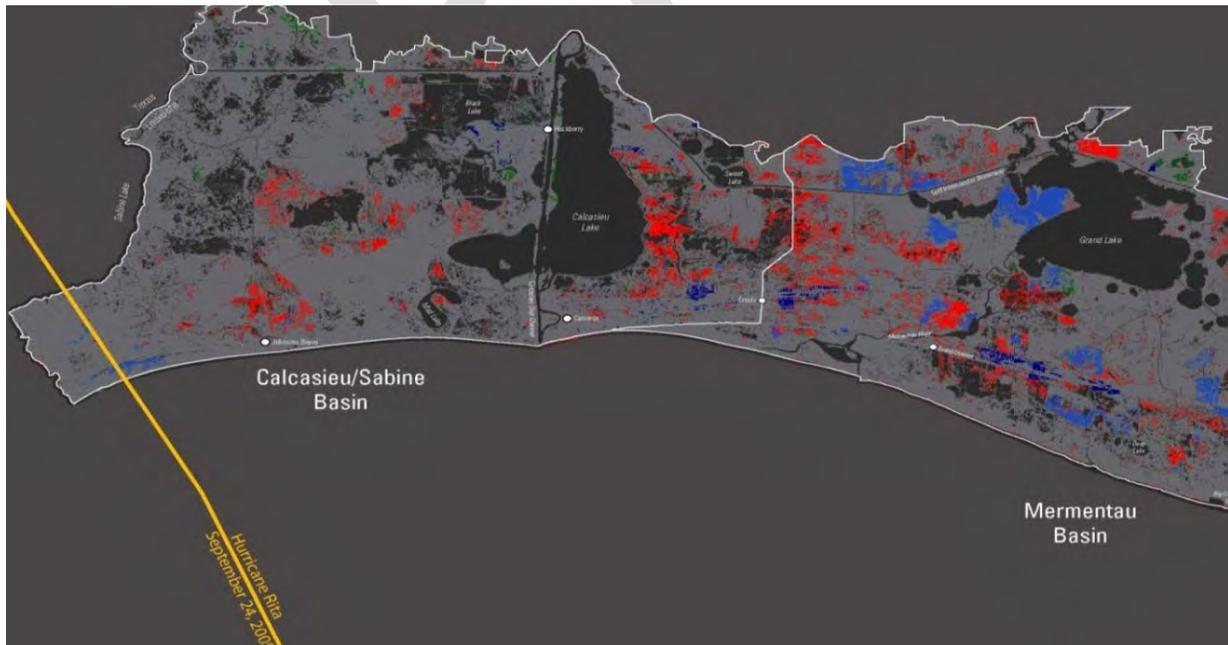


Figure 8 Land Loss in Cameron Parish after Hurricane Rita 2005

Figure 8 depicts the conversion of a substantial amount of land to open water. The areas in red depict land loss, blue areas are flooded marsh and agricultural land, and green areas are new land. The Mermentau Basin experienced the more drastic land loss in 2005 due to Hurricane Rita and lost an estimated sixty-five square miles of land mass. The result of the storm surge in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin was not as significant, but the area still suffered a land loss of nearly twenty-five square miles. (U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 06-1274. Barras, John A., 2006). The amount of solid land compared to marsh and wetlands affects Cameron Parish’s susceptibility to coastal erosion and its vulnerability to relative sea-level rise, as vividly illustrated in Figure 9.

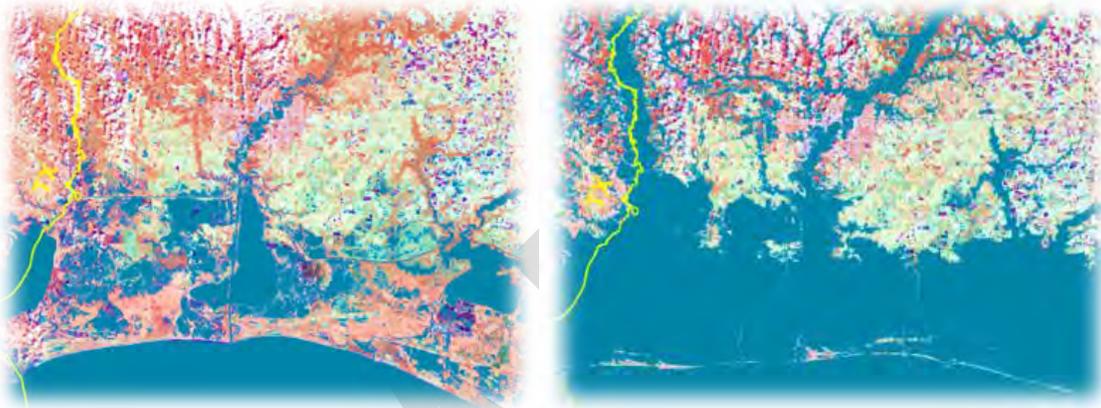


Figure 9: 2011 Image from Cameron Parish from the USGS (left). 2011 image with marsh and wetlands removed (right).

The 2017 and 2023 State Master Plans illustrate similar predictive scenarios for land loss and flooding in the coastal area of the Chenier Plain. In consideration of that data, and the extent of marshes in Cameron Parish, it is understandable that the land loss and flooding issues of 2014, 2023, as well as the approaches to protect and restore the landscape for the next 25 years, will not significantly change. Inclusion of adaptive management and lessons learned from projects and new processes and procedures will help us continue to improve the proactive measures towards resolving these issues.

2.4 The No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative for the projects and strategies within this PLAN would result in the continued degradation of not only Cameron Parish, but every neighboring parish as well. Nearly seventy-five miles of contiguous coastline serve as a storm surge barrier and buffer for over 225,000 residents in Calcasieu and Jeff Davis Parishes. Beyond providing indirect benefits to neighboring parishes through a stable ecosystem and coastline, Cameron Parish’s coastal marshes directly support the Parish’s well-being. They offer vital habitat for flora and fauna and protect thousands of miles of pipelines located below the surface. Cameron Parish’s economic identity and viability are tied to the functions and values of these marshes, waterways, and estuaries.

With no action Cameron Parish faces severely increased wetland loss across most of the parish over the next 50 years (Figure 10 and 11). According to the 2023 Coastal Master Plan, Cameron could experience the highest total land loss of any coastal parish (under the medium environmental scenario). With no further coastal protection or restoration actions, the parish could lose an additional 444 square miles, or 40% of the parish’s land area, with impacts to its coastal towns. Likewise, with no further action, the parish faces severely increased future storm surge-based flood risk. Over the next 50 years (under the

medium environmental scenario), 100-year flood depths increase to 15 feet across much of the parish, and higher in some areas. All the Parish’s communities are at potentially increased risk including Hackberry, Cameron, Johnson’s Bayou, and Grand Chenier.

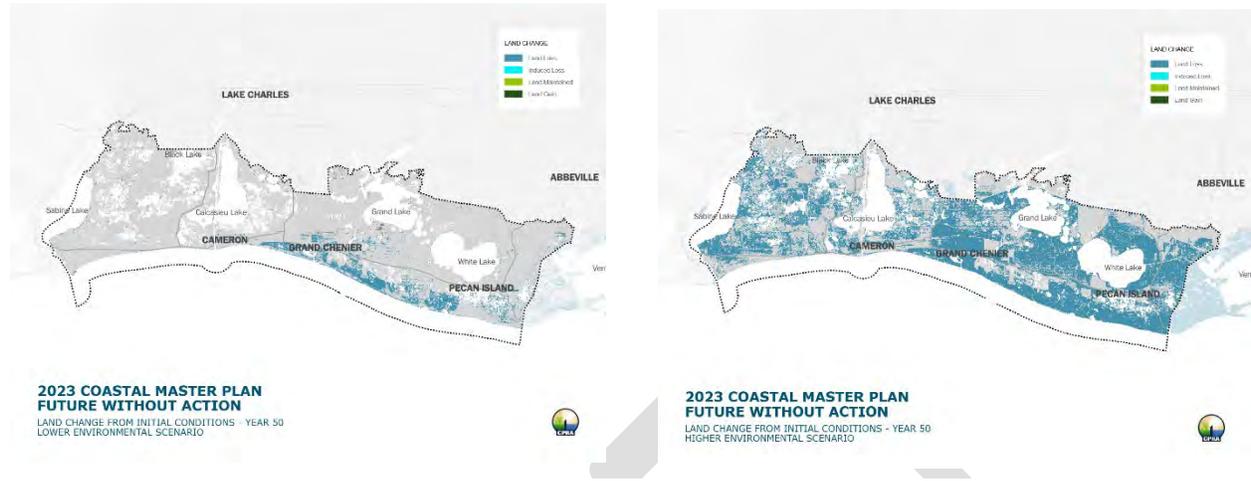


Figure 10 2023 Land Change Coastal Master Plan Future Without Action. Left image Low Scenario, Right image High Scenario.

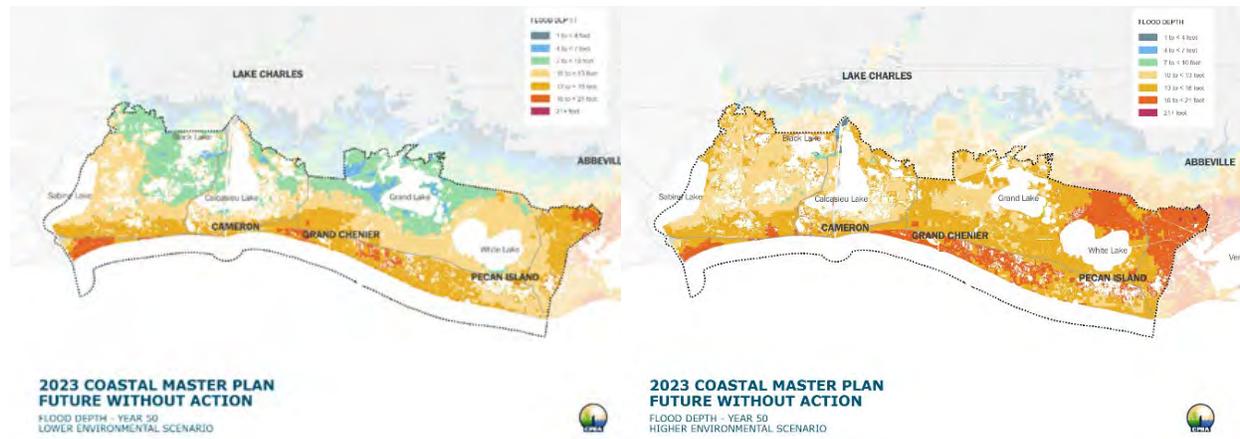


Figure 11 2023 Flood Depth Coastal Master Plan Future Without Action. Left image Low Scenario, Right image High Scenario.

Even with the incursion of four major storm events (Rita [2005], Ike [2008], Laura [2020], and Delta 2020]) and the subsequent loss of approximately fifty percent of the population, Cameron Parish is still one of the most economically and ecologically vital parishes in Louisiana.

The Parish is a major support contributor with a direct link to the oil and gas exploration and service industry. Two major liquefied natural gas (LNG) interests are currently located on waterways within the Parish with others in various stages of expansion, construction, and permitting stages. LNG plants and pipelines at the Parish supply ~25.0% of the daily natural gas demands in the United States. The greatest accomplishment of Cameron Parish is becoming the world's largest exporter of liquefied natural gas.

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve in northern part of the parish stores over 210,000,000 barrels of oil which represents approximately 10 percent of the nation’s total reserves.

Cameron Parish’s vast prairies and open land provide adequate grazing for one of Louisiana’s top beef producing parishes. This landscape further supports significant economic activity. For example, the LSU

AgCenter's January 2025 Cameron Parish Profile reports that total revenue from animal enterprises was \$5.5 million, aquaculture and wildlife generated \$62.2 million, and plant enterprises totaled \$8.6 million. In addition to agriculture, recreational use of wetlands also contributes to parish revenue. Over 420,000 acres of the parish's wetlands are leased for hunting and fishing lease at \$6.4 million.

Without the maintenance or construction of the proposed projects and addressing the concerns noted in the PLAN, Cameron Parish would continue to be at risk for an exacerbated or continued coastal land degradation and loss rates by:

- Future storm events
- Sea-level rise
- Subsidence
- Anthropogenic activities
- Lack of cooperation and communication with neighboring parishes regarding watershed and drainage issues
- Lack of preventive or restoration-based coastal projects
- Lack of Funding

The effects of not enacting this PLAN jeopardizes the economic, social, and environmental well-being of not only Cameron parish, but adjoining parishes as well. Neighboring parishes realize that Cameron Parish stands as their first line of defense for hurricane protection and storm surges, and economic and ecological vitality.

2.5 Constraints and Challenges

Cameron Parish's unique geographic position, geology, hydrology, ecology, and orientation, compounded by natural and anthropogenic disasters, presents a formidable task to effectively address coastal restoration and protection issues. This is why adaptive management and employing best engineering practices is an integral part of this PLAN.

In 2008, three years after Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Ike came ashore at High Island, TX with a 22-foot storm surge, which was far worse than Rita's 10-foot surge. The Texas and Louisiana coastlines in that area witnessed storm surge and floodwaters 60 miles inland, as far north as Lake Charles. In Cameron Parish, the communities of Cameron, Holly Beach, Hackberry, Creole, and Grand Chenier were essentially destroyed. Following the destruction of homes and businesses, thousands of residents were displaced, and recovery efforts to basic infrastructure is still on-going.

The resilience of Cameron Parish was tested in 2020 when Hurricane Laura made landfall near Cameron on August 27, boasting winds of over 150-mile-per-hour winds. A 9-foot storm surge reached northwards towards Lake Charles. Hurricane Delta made landfall in Creole only six weeks later on October 9, 2020, as a Category 2 hurricane with 100-mile-per-hour winds. After the storms passed, residents began rebuilding, facing tasks made even more difficult by the cumulative effects of the four major hurricanes that had come ashore since 2005.

Climate change has been responsible for variations in precipitation and extreme droughts that occurred in 2000, 2006, and 2015; an exceptional drought began in 2010 and lasted through the end of 2011. The Calcasieu-Sabine Basin experienced excessive flooding in 2016 and 2017 that caused vegetation stress and collapse.

The Sabine River Authority's management of the Toledo Bend Reservoir has severe adverse effects on marsh vegetation in the western portion of the parish. The release of water in conjunction with high tides in the Sabine-Neches channel has caused major stress and marsh collapse. The deepening of the

Sabine-Neches channel will increase tidal amplitudes, salinity, and marsh deterioration in the Sabine basin. The demand of fresh water by the state of Texas is also a major future concern.

According to the USACE Southwest Coastal Louisiana Feasibility Study (SW Coastal) Plan Scoping Elements, “Constraints are restrictions that shape the planning process. Planning constraints include legal and policy constraints that are applicable to all Federal water resources planning efforts, as well as study-specific constraints. As described below, most planning constraints are not absolute restrictions; rather, they are conditions to be avoided to the extent practicable.”

Examples of suggested constraints listed in the study included:

- Avoid or minimize negative impacts to threatened and endangered species
- Avoid or minimize impacts to critical habitat (e.g., Essential Fisheries Habitat) and minimize impacts to commercial fisheries
- Avoid actions that negatively affect the ability of authorized navigation projects to continue to fulfill their purpose
- Avoid actions that would induce flooding and avoid or minimize contributions to low dissolved oxygen concentrations or conditions that could result in detrimental algal blooms



Figure 12 Unprotected Rutherford Beach

The overall challenges presented to the Parish in alleviating the imminent threat of coastal land loss and providing storm risk reduction, include funding, regulatory requirements, land rights, subsidence, sea level rise, and storm events. The following items were identified as being problematic for our coastal restoration and protection efforts:

- Avenues and sources of funding are paramount to the success of the PLAN.
- Regulatory Requirements – the regulatory requirements encumbered upon landowners, governmental entities, and non-profits, can often be overwhelming, costly, and cause projects delays and/or encumbrances.
- Louisiana’s 2012 ‘[Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast](#)’, and subsequent editions of 2017 and 2023– the predominant concern that arose was if a project was not included in the State Master Plan, it would be labeled as “inconsistent” with the State Master Plan and would not be eligible for state and federal funding. This presents a problem in the fact that many good projects and critically sensitive project areas were omitted from the Plan. It was suggested that the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority (CPRA) could pull this policy or adjust it. The computer models were referenced as a “tool” not the “end all be all” and should be balanced by local knowledge of the marshes and coastal areas of the Parish from residents who have lived here for over seven generations in many cases. It is a goal of the Cameron Parish 2025 PLAN to have projects to be consistent with the State Master Plan to maximum extent possible.
- Quantifying benefits of salinity control mechanisms and hydrologic restoration - the increasing salinity levels in the Calcasieu Ship Channel, Mermentau River Ship Channel, Sabine Lake/River, and the GIWW are of concern. Not only is the eventual construction of any structures a concern, but the operation and maintenance of these structures should be considered as well.

Section 3.0 Plan Formulation

3.1 Introduction

The primary goal of the Cameron Parish Police Jury's 2025 PLAN as stated in Section 1.2 is to provide a living blueprint to ensure a sustainable future and long-term preservation of the Parish's unique landscape. It will be achieved by prioritizing and constructing projects as funding opportunities are identified and granted.

This 2025 PLAN will serve to prioritize and manage marsh creation and restoration, shoreline protection, storm risk reduction, and habitat restoration projects that will transform Cameron Parish's landscape into more sustainable environments. It will also serve as the guide for future strategic planning efforts, incorporating stakeholder, regional, state, and federal involvement in the process.

Input from the public and stakeholders for this 2025 PLAN was solicited and recorded for proposed revisions and updates via a series of five open house meetings and a project submission form on the Parish website (see Appendix D). The meetings



Figure 13. Public Meeting



Figure 14. Meeting Maps

were held to give the public, stakeholders, and landowners the opportunity to discuss and provide input on coastal protection and restoration needs, project ideas, and challenges. Feedback from public meetings will be used to shape projects and priorities for the 2025 and future PLANS. As listed below, open houses were held in different communities to provide easier accessibility for stakeholders throughout the parish:

- Tuesday, March 18, 2025; Johnson Bayou Community Center
- Wednesday, March 19, 2025; Hackberry Community Center
- Tuesday, March 25, 2025; Cameron Parish Police Jury West Annex
- Wednesday, March 26, 2025; Grand Lake Library
- Tuesday, April 8, 2025; Klondike Community Center

A by-product of the public meetings has been the beneficial discussions between the police jurors, parish administrative staff, and stakeholders. This setting has provided a way for interested parties to openly discuss and resolve important issues together.

3.2 Regulations Applicable to Cameron Parish

Cameron Parish is one of 20 coastal parishes that comprise the Louisiana Coastal Zone boundary established in Louisiana Revised Statutes Article 49, §214.24 (Figure 13). The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources' Office of Coastal Management (OCM) regulates development activities and manages the resources within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. The office is comprised of two closely related divisions: the Permits/Mitigation Division, and the Interagency Affairs & Field Services Division. It is the function of

OCM, through its staff, to maintain, protect, develop, and restore or enhance the invaluable coastal region of the State of Louisiana.

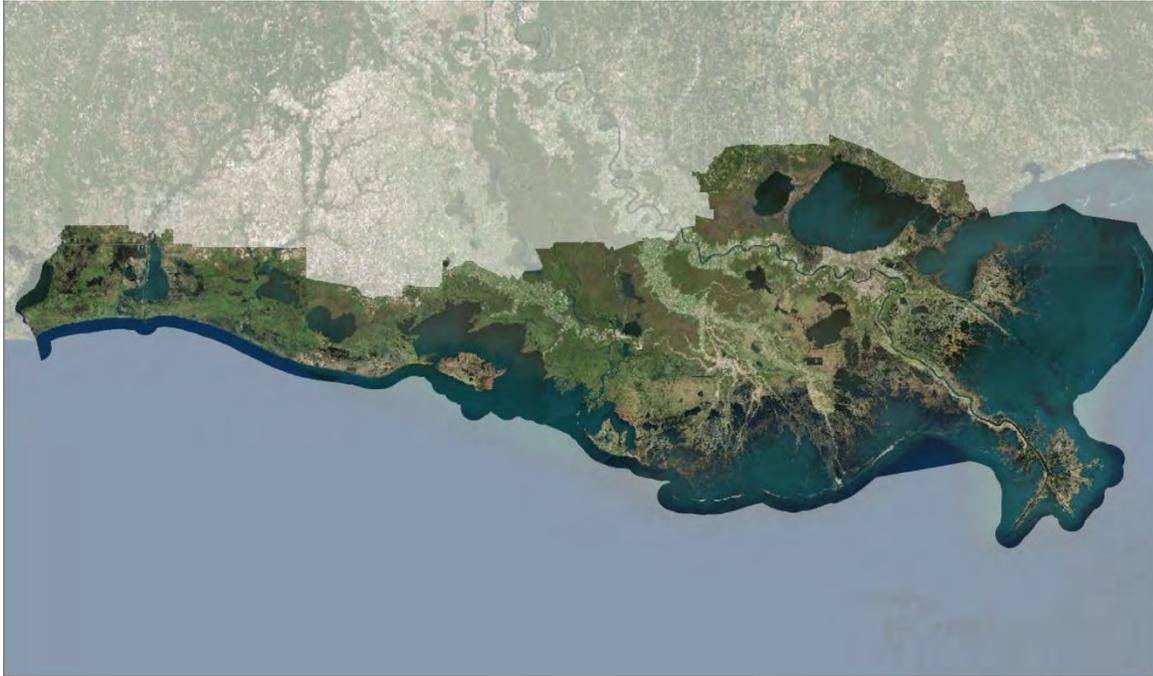


Figure 15 Louisiana Coastal Zone

Being a coastal zone parish bordering the Gulf of America and having significant wetland habitat acreage, Cameron Parish has become familiar with the regulatory controls and processes that guide development in these critical habitats while avoiding, minimizing, and/or mitigating impacts. Cameron has relied on, Office of Coastal Management (OCM) for guidance on regulatory issues throughout the parish.

As part of the regulatory process, a Coastal Use Permit (CUP) Program has been established by the OCM. As a result, applicants are required to apply for a Joint Permit Application. Joint Permit applications are submitted to OCM and sent to the USACE to comply with state and federal regulations including Section 404, Section 10, Section 301, Section 408, and Section 401.

The Joint Permit Process allows an applicant to obtain comments from regulatory agencies by submitting one permit application to the OCM instead of having to coordinate with multiple agencies individually. The following agencies might provide input in the permit review process:

- Cameron Parish
- CPRA
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development (DOTD)
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)
- Louisiana Dept. of Culture, Recreation, & Tourism (OCRT)
- Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Primarily, coastal restoration projects in Cameron Parish are reviewed by OCM, USACE, and DEQ. The OCM addresses impacts to coastal waters. The USACE authorizes Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (filling waters of the US) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (impacts to navigable waterways). The DEQ regulates water quality and discharges into state waters.

Cameron is one of ten coastal parishes in Louisiana to take part in a Local Coastal Management Program. Being part of this Local Coastal Management Program, Cameron Parish benefits from having a centralized department to work directly with other agencies in sending information from the State and Federal government to Parish residents and vice versa during the permit process. The Cameron Parish Police Jury employs a Coastal Zone Administrator (Administrator) and staff who effectively handle those program duties.

The parish's Administrator purview is to provide oversight of the program and remain current with the regulations and operations of the program. The Administrator also determines whether local Coastal Use Permit (CUP) applications are Exempt, have No Direct and Significant Impact (NDSI), qualify for a General Permit, and CUP. Permit applications are forwarded to the Police Jury for consideration at regular voting meetings. A copy of the permit application is also sent to members of the parish's Coastal Zone Management Committee for approval. Cameron's Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Committee includes representatives from each of the seven Drainage Districts in Cameron Parish, and the Police Jury. Once determinations are made by the CZM Committee, letters are sent to the applicant, OCM, and USACE. This interagency relationship streamlines permit processing and ensures regulatory compliance, benefiting the operations of the Coastal Zone Management Department and the applicant.

The Cameron Parish CZM Department does provide for a 25-day public comment period on local concern applications under review by placing a public notice in the official parish journal. All approval and denial of permits are reported to OCM and USACE.

The Cameron Parish CZM Program has established a Coastal Zone Management Ordinance which strives to ensure sound development, provide a balanced approach to conservation and development, resolve conflicts among competing uses in the coastal zone, and illustrate regulatory and non-regulatory policies for the Coastal Zone Management program. Amendments and updates to ordinances are authorized only after an affirmative vote by members of the Cameron Parish Police Jury and a subsequent 30-day comment period. One such amendment was adopted in September of 2012 which restricted activities on Chenier's, natural ridges and similar landforms classified as "Critical Landforms". Please see Appendix E for a copy of the adopted, amended ordinance.

https://library.municode.com/la/cameron_parrish_police_jury/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COOR_CH5_1-2COZOMA

As environmental and development challenges arise in the parish, the Cameron Parish Coastal Zone Management Regulations and review processes are updated to address the specific concerns.

This PLAN through the efforts of the CWG, will review and highlight obstacles to implementing an effective and timely process for regulatory review and comment period on proposed projects. Stakeholders who lived and worked in our wetland and coastal areas and who engaged in coastal restoration and protection efforts for over thirty years, have witnessed successfully implemented projects. The successes and failures of projects are well documented, and the lessons learned are incorporated into the design and maintenance of future projects. This process defines adaptive management.

The Cameron Parish Police Jury has an extensive process in place for the review and implementation of proposed developments in the Parish. The communication between the Cameron Parish Police Jury, residents, the Coastal Zone Management Department, and the relevant state and agencies, lead to a

cooperative effort in protecting, restoring, enhancing, and creating critical habitat. However, by simplifying permit procedures, stakeholders will experience reduced wait times and clearer guidance, encouraging responsible development while maintaining environmental safeguards.

3.3 PLAN Development Process



Figure 86 Klondike Public Meeting

The Coastal Working Group (CWG) will oversee the PLAN Development Process and will have projects listed by type and prioritization, addressing flexibility in the rankings based on funding availability. By making the PLAN web-based and interactive, stakeholders can access real-time updates, contribute feedback, and track project progress, ensuring that priorities remain aligned with current needs and available funding.

Cameron's project types and project elements are delineated in accordance with the '2023 Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast' ("2023 Master Plan") in Appendix F to the maximum extent practical to be eligible for state and federal funding. Some unique projects may not be considered consistent with the Master Plan but will be included in Parish PLAN project list because of its importance to the Parish. Funding for any projects not consistent with the State Master may be more difficult

to secure funding for, however they will be included in an appropriate project list and their rankings will still be determined.

In this 2025 PLAN, with more involvement from the public via the public meetings and web-based project input, the focus has shifted to parish-wide issues of storm risk reduction and restoration and protection projects that will resolve them.

Projects will be prioritized according to the parameters associated with the applicable and available funds. The project list will also take into consideration the available construction budget and any limitations.

Other issues that can influence project selection and prioritization include:

- Urgent action needed
- Land rights issues
- Status of design, permitting, and construction readiness for (Shovel-ready)
- Proven technology
- Dependence of project on other entities or organizations

Project Prioritization

The projects submitted and included in the PLAN shall be evaluated by the CWG and present to the Police Jury. As determined by the Police Jury, projects may or may not require public hearings. Such hearings may be held at the same time and location scheduled monthly Police Jury meetings. Projects will be prioritized according to the parameters associated with the applicable and available funds. The project list will also take into consideration the available construction budget and any limitations.

Implementation shall evaluate such projects according to the following criteria:

1. The project's consistency with the goals and objectives of the PLAN.
2. The critical (urgent) purpose and need of the project.

3. The project's contribution to community resiliency (evacuation routes, connection to local businesses, contribution to regional commerce, hurricane protection etc.) and/or to state, regional and national energy security.
4. Resilience against future environmental conditions.
5. Opportunities to leverage funding from other project sources
6. Land rights issues
7. Status of design, permitting, and construction readiness for (Shovel-ready)

This results in a plan where projects selected not only reduce risk and land loss, but working together helps us sustain and grow coastal Louisiana's culture, economy, and natural resources.

DRAFT

Section 4.0 Funding Sources and Availability

4.1 Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund (Coastal Trust Fund)



The Coastal Trust Fund is a constitutionally protected trust fund dedicated to projects and programs that preserve and restore Louisiana’s coastal area. The state Constitution requires that money placed into the fund be spent on projects in—or be “not inconsistent with”—the Louisiana Coastal Master Plan. The Coastal Trust Fund receives money from state mineral revenues, the federal government, various payments related to the BP oil spill, state surplus when available, and other sources. These funds are made available to the CPRA for “the purposes of integrated coastal protection, including but not limited to, coastal wetlands conservation, coastal restoration, hurricane protection, or for infrastructure directly impacted by coastal wetlands losses.”

The Coastal Trust Fund is the state’s vehicle for covering cost-share obligations for federal projects with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and federal programs like CWPPRA. It is also the account used to cash-flow grant reimbursable expenses from funding programs related to the BP oil spill (RESTORE and NFWF). Finally, the trust fund is the account used to pay for programmatic expenditures like master plan development, data and monitoring, and the agency’s operational expenses.

4.2 Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)



In 1990, President H.W. Bush signed into law the Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). Specifically, this federally funded program is designed to “identify, prepare, and fund construction of coastal wetlands restoration projects.” CWPPRA funds have been responsible for the implementation of over 200 projects to date, resulting in the creation of 110,000 acres of wetlands , and the enhancement of 350,000 acres of wetland habitat.

The Police Jury actively pursues these funds annually through the CWPPRA Project Priority List (PPL) process. The entities directly involved in the funding process for CWPPRA include parishes within the hydrologic basin, CPRA, EPA, the National Marine Fisheries Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USACE, and USFWS.

4.3 State Capital Outlay Funds



The Louisiana Division of Administration, Capital Outlay Section of the Office of Facility and Planning Control prepares the proposed state construction program which is sent to the Louisiana Legislature annually. Known as the capital outlay bill, the document includes state and local projects financed with state and federal funds as well as state general obligation bonds and fees and self-generated revenues. The Capital Outlay Act includes projects that have been proposed, reviewed, and evaluated following constitutional and statutory provisions and excludes any project considered not feasible after evaluation.

The Legislature conducts hearings on the proposed plan and makes changes as it moves through the legislative process. After its enactment, the Capital Outlay Section reviews legislative changes and prepares the governor’s veto messages (if any). Once the governor signs the legislation into law, the Section sends agencies letters letting them know of capital outlay appropriations and of the procedures required to initiate funded projects.

The Cameron Parish Police Jury can apply for State Capital Outlay Funds to help with the costs of implementing coastal restoration projects. These projects are reviewed annually by state staff of the Facility Planning and Control to determine the feasibility of the project. Currently, a 25 percent local match is required.

<https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/fpc/capital-outlay/>

4.4 State Surplus Funds



LOUISIANA
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

In the event a state budget surplus exists, the Coastal Trust Fund is one of only a handful of funds that may receive surplus dollars. Surplus dollars are considered non-recurring—or “one-time” revenue—that may not be used to bolster the general operating budget. Surplus dollars directed to the Coastal Trust Fund allow the CPRA to speed up the implementation of projects from the Louisiana Coastal Master Plan.

4.5 Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA)



The Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) of 2006 created a revenue-sharing model to disburse funds annually to the five Gulf of America states based on offshore oil and gas leasing and production. The funds are to be used for supporting coastal conservation and restoration projects, hurricane protection programs, onshore infrastructure projects, and activities to implement marine and coastal resilience management. In Louisiana, GOMESA provides a consistent source of funding to address the land loss crisis. To date, Louisiana officials have made clear commitments to using the state’s share of GOMESA funding for implementing the Coastal Master Plan. Louisiana voters have constitutionally dedicated all future revenues from GOMESA to the Coastal Trust Fund to be used exclusively for restoration and protection activities.

The Act also directs a percentage of revenue to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The LWCF program promotes broad-scope outdoor recreation, ranging from land acquisition to development of park facilities. The Office of Natural Resources Revenue disburses revenue to the state and local governments. With this year’s disbursement, the U.S. Department of the Interior has now distributed more than \$2 billion to the states and their coastal political subdivisions (CPS) since GOMESA funds were first shared in 2009. The GOMESA funds from FY 2025 are \$2,095,270.

The GOMESA cap was raised by 30%, to \$650 million annually for ten years starting in FY 2025 and ending in FY 2034. That includes \$487.5 million for GOMESA revenue-sharing among Gulf states and \$162.5 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Louisiana officials expect a substantial increase in additional annual revenue of up to \$46 M flowing into the state’s Coastal Trust Fund for the ten-year period. Cameron Parish has been and will continue to be supportive of this revision to the fund.

4.6 Water Resource Development Act (WRDA)



The Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) is a federally funded program that addresses the authorization of water-related studies, projects, and programs with the overall goal of improving the nation’s water resources infrastructure. WRDA Bills, over time, have evolved to also include flood protection and prevention measures, applying to coastal restoration and hurricane protection initiatives in coastal Louisiana. Since 1999, three WRDA bills have been passed 2000, 2007, and the most recent in 2024, signed into law on January 4, 2025. The

USACE is the primary federal agency that provides oversight of the WRDA process in Louisiana. Though the funding source is extremely critical to hurricane and flood protection efforts, a WRDA bill has been cumbersome to use for funding and projects. One promising provision of the 2024 Bill is the expansion of the study area of the Alexandria to the Gulf project to include Point Coupee, Allen, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, Iberville, and Cameron Parishes within the scope of that investigation.

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

4.7 North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA)



The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) of 1989 is a federal law that provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to conduct wetlands conservation for projects that protect, restore, and enhance wetland habitats critical for migratory birds across the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

NAWCA-funded projects align with the goals of the historic North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP), an international strategy dedicated to conserving wetlands and associated uplands for waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Since 1991, NAWCA has supported 3,300 projects for over 7,000 partners, conserving more than 32.6 million acres of vital habitat. These efforts have been made possible through \$2.28 billion in grants and an additional \$4.53 billion in partner contributions. NAWCA projects not only help birds but also help to improve water quality, reduce flooding risks, minimize coastal erosion, and create valuable opportunities for outdoor recreation, enhancing both ecosystems and communities.

<https://www.fws.gov/service/north-american-wetlands-conservation-act-nawca-us-standard-grants>

There is a Standard and a Small Grants Program. Both are competitive grants programs and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1:1 ratio. Funds from federal sources may contribute towards a project but are not eligible as match.

The Standard Grants Program supports projects that involve long-term protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. The value of the grants is in the \$250,001 to \$3,000,000 range. The NAWCA Council has approved changes to the U.S. Standard Grant application cycles starting in Federal fiscal year 2026 (FY26). This change will better align with the timing of Federal fund availability – ideally reducing the time from application to award issuance. See dbhc@fws.gov for more information but the Standard Grants.

The Small Grants Program works only in the United States; it supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program such as the 50% federal/50% non-federal match (a 1:1 ratio) requirement. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$250,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program. (USFWS, 2025)

<https://www.fws.gov/service/north-american-wetlands-conservation-act-nawca-us-standard-grants>

4.8 Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)



Following the occurrence of an oil spill or hazardous substance release into the environment, Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)

funds may be available. The funds derived from such an event would be dedicated to alleviating the negative impacts of the substances on human health and on the environment.

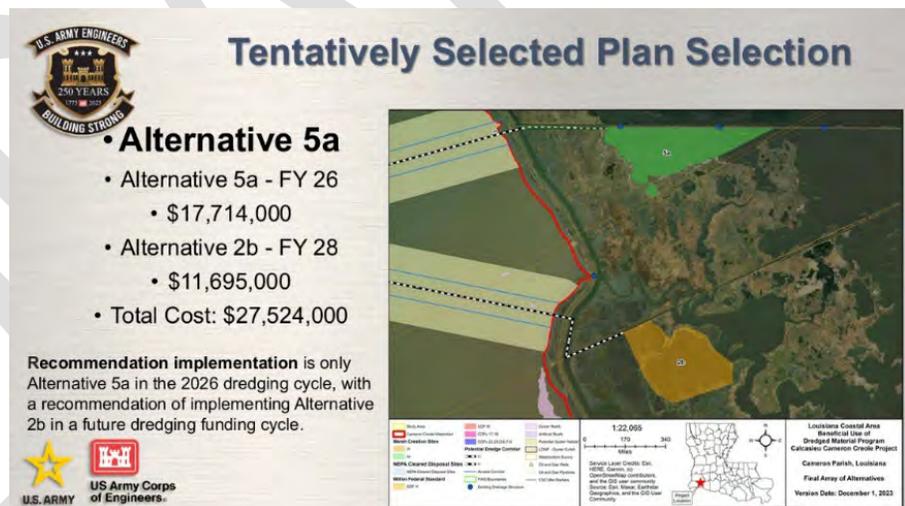
Under the April 2016 settlement between British Petroleum (BP), five Gulf of America states, and the USA, the Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group (LTIG)—a group of federal and state representatives—currently manages the \$5 billion settlement via the Natural Resource Restoration Program (NRRP) in Louisiana. \$4.3 billion is to be used to restore and conserve habitat, and the remaining funds used to replenish and protect living coastal and marine resources (\$343 million); for monitoring, adaptive management, and administration oversight (\$258 million); to provide and enhance recreational opportunities (\$60 million), and to restore water quality (\$20 million).

The State of Louisiana and federal natural resource trustees have developed a statewide Regional Restoration Planning Program (RRP Program) to aid the natural resource trustees in conducting their Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) responsibilities for discharges or substantial threats of discharges of oil. The typical process for NRDA funds includes a Preliminary Assessment to decide whether an impact has occurred. Next, the degree or severity of the impact is calculated. If the natural resources are affected, an assessment is conducted to try and quantify impacts and potential restoration projects. Those restoration plans outline approaches to accelerate the recovery of impacted resources and to compensate for the loss or impairment from the impacts. The ultimate step is to implement the proposed restoration project. This project will be monitored for its overall effectiveness once complete.

<https://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/page/natural-resource-damage-assessment-nrda>

4.9 Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Program (BUDMAT)

The Beneficial Use of Dredged Material (BUDMAT) program (Figure 17 and Figure 18) involves the regulation and use of dredged materials from federally maintained waterways in coastal Louisiana. The funds for this program are contingent upon annual appropriations however the Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) BUDMAT Program goal is to cost effectively increase the beneficial use of material dredged from federally



maintained waterways at a total cost of \$100 million over a ten-year period. Implementation of the LCA BUDMAT Program is authorized by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 - Section 7006(d) within the Louisiana Coastal Area Program. The BUDMAT Goal is to use federal maintenance dredged material to restore, and/or create coastal landscape features using a synergistic approach to ecosystem performance, flood risk reduction, and navigation. The construction for BUDMAT projects is cost shared at a 75% Federal and 25% NFS rate. The section of the Calcasieu Ship Channel in Cameron Parish could receive these funds including the Mermentau River.

4.10 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)



The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) provides funding on a competitive basis to projects that sustain, restore, and enhance our nation's fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. NFWF is a private, non-profit organization created by Congress in 1984. NFWF works with various agencies to grant funds to state and local governmental entities and has a history of providing matching funds to the following agencies: USFWS, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, NOAA, the EPA, and U.S. Forest Service.

<https://www.nfwf.org/>

4.11 Community Development Block Grant Disaster (CDBG-DR)



Louisiana Division of Administration
Office of Community Development –
Disaster Recovery

The Louisiana Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery (LOCD-DR) administers federal grant funds to eligible storm-affected entities throughout the state in the form of disaster recovery dollars for programs related to housing, infrastructure, economic development, and mitigation. Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grant funds are appropriated by Congress and allocated by HUD to rebuild disaster-impacted areas and provide crucial seed money to start the long-term recovery process. These flexible grants help cities, counties, Indian tribes, and States recover from Presidentially declared disasters.

Housed within the Louisiana Division of Administration, the LOCD-DR leverages established statewide partnerships and proven best practices to help Louisiana communities recover, rebuild, and implement long-term resilience planning that helps mitigate impacts from future disaster events. The Louisiana CDBG-DR funded the Mermentau Basin Inundation Relief Project which will take place in LWI Regions 4 and 5, of which Cameron is a part of.

The total project cost is approximately \$25 million, with funding provided through the Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) program under the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, administered by the Louisiana Office of Community Development—Disaster Recovery (LOCD-DR). Construction is actively underway on all three project components. Barring any unforeseen delays, all elements are projected to be completed by March 2026.

<https://locddr.la.gov/>

4.12 Southwest Coastal Louisiana Storm Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration Project



The Southwest Coastal Louisiana Storm Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration Project (SW Coastal) is a collaborative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and CPRA (non-Federal sponsor) to provide hurricane and storm damage risk reduction and coastal ecosystem restoration in a 4,700 square mile area of Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermilion Parishes.

The project consists of two phases - a non-structural phase and a structural phase. The non-structural phase, or Storm Risk Management part, provides for the elevation of homes and implementation of flood-proofing measures to mitigate the risks posed by storm surges and flooding. The project achieved a significant milestone in October 2024 with the groundbreaking of the first home being elevated.

The structural phase, or Ecosystem Restoration and Shoreline Protection part, provides for the CPRA to implement shoreline protection measures to safeguard the Parishes coastal ecosystems and communities. These measures, funded through the National Ecosystem Restoration Plan (NER), will help preserve critical habitats, mitigate coastal erosion, and help protect communities from storm surges.

It should be noted that any non-federal funds that the CPRA, or the Parish allocates to the coastal projects included in the SW Coastal study would qualify as an in-kind match for the 35% non-federal share. It is critical for the Parish and the CPRA to communicate these types of expenditures with the USACE to ensure these dollars are included in future project considerations and calculations.

4.13 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)



FEMA

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments so they can develop hazard mitigation plans and rebuild in a way that reduces, or mitigates, future disaster losses in their communities. This grant funding is available after a presidentially declared disaster.

In this program, homeowners and businesses cannot apply for a grant. However, a local community may apply for funding on their behalf.

All state, local, tribal, and territorial governments must develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans to receive funding for hazard mitigation project application

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/learn/hazard-mitigation>

4.14 Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)

The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) is the humanitarian bureau of the State Department. PRM promotes U.S. interests by providing protection, easing suffering, and resolving the plight of persecuted and forcibly displaced people around the world. PRM does this by coordinating humanitarian policy and diplomacy, providing life-sustaining aid, working with multilateral organizations to build global partnerships, and promoting best practices in humanitarian response.

The Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment (E) leads the State Department's efforts to develop and implement international policies related to economic growth, energy, agriculture, the ocean, the environment, and science and technology.

4.15 Public Private Partnerships (P3)

A public-private partnership (P3) is a collaboration between a government agency and a private-sector company to finance, build, and operate public infrastructure projects. P3's are typically long-term arrangements and involve private capital financing government projects and services up-front and then drawing revenues from taxpayers and/or users for profit over the course of the P3 contract.

4.16 Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL)



CRCL is a multifaceted non-profit organization with expertise in policy, science, outreach, and on-the-ground restoration. CRCL engages hundreds of volunteers every year in marsh grass plantings, tree plantings, and oyster reef deployment across the coast. They strive to maximize their financial and volunteer contributions by partnering with other organizations with, and in common causes. Their vision speaks volumes about their organization: "Vibrant wetlands, with hurricane protection, bountiful ecosystems, and economic opportunities across Louisiana's coast." <https://www.crcl.org/>

4.17 RISEE Act

The proposed RISEE Act, when passed, will serve to more funding for coastal states from offshore wind projects, offshore oil and gas leases, and onshore energy and mineral resources. States must use the revenue for specified purposes, such as coastal restoration, conservation, or infrastructure.

Specifically, the bill will require revenues generated from offshore wind projects conducted under a lease entered into on or after January 1, 2022, to be deposited into accounts for the U.S. Treasury, the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund, and adjacent coastal states. Currently, this revenue is deposited in the U.S. Treasury. The Department of the Interior must disburse the revenue to a state in an amount that is based on a formula that is inversely proportional to a state's distance from the offshore wind site.

In addition, the bill would remove the cap on the amount of revenue generated from offshore oil and gas leases that may be shared with states under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006. It will also eliminate a fee under the Mineral Leasing Act that the Dept. of Interior currently collects to administer the onshore revenue sharing program.

4.18 In-Lieu Fee Program



This is a new program administered by the Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources (LDNER) which provides funding to re-establish marsh in the State's coastal areas to achieve the primary goal of the Program of no net loss of wetlands. Program funding consists of monies collected from permittees who buy Program credits to satisfy compensatory mitigation requirements for projects with unavoidable adverse impacts to vegetated wetlands and other coastal habitats. The Program provides funding for projects that will provide environmental and ecological benefits by creating marsh, conserving wildlife and marine fisheries habitats, reducing open water areas, and re-establishing wetlands.

Cameron Parish should be intentional in engaging the LDNER in understanding the amount of in-lieu payments available as well as potential eligible expenditures and obligations related thereto.

<https://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/page/compensatory-mitigation>

4.19 Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI)



The Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI) is a coordinated interagency effort focused on reducing flood risk and increasing resilience throughout Louisiana. The LWI agencies consist of the Louisiana Office of Community Development (LOCD), CPRA, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Department of Transportation and Development, and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Through this initiative, the state is working towards coordinating floodplain management responsibilities in Louisiana based on watershed boundaries the state.

Eight watershed regions were set up as part of the initiative, with Cameron Parish being a part of both Regions 4 and 5. The LOCD further provided funding to each region to build the capacity to manage their programs. Each region appoints a fiscal agent to manage the funding and capacity-building process.

LWI has funded investments in green and gray infrastructure, flood mitigation projects, a water monitoring network, and hydrologic & hydraulic (H & H) watershed models which cover the entire state. Investments in scientific tools like the H & H models and the monitoring network will deepen the

decision-makers' understanding of Louisiana's flood risk and improve the project prioritization process and successes among and along shared waterways.

One project, the Mermentau Basin Inundation Relief project, will take place in both Regions 4 and 5 with the total project cost of approximately \$25 million, with funding provided through the CDBG-MIT program under the LWI, administered by the LOCD-DR. Construction is actively underway on all three project components. Barring any unforeseen delays, all elements are projected to be completed by March 2026.

<https://locddr.la.gov/programs/louisiana-watershed-initiative>

Region 4



Region 4 is made up of the western part of the state and encompasses nine parishes of the Sabine River basin: DeSoto, Sabine, Vernon, Rapides, Beauregard, Allen, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, and Cameron. The participating Parishes formed an LWI Coalition Policy Committee (CPC) composed of a representative from each of the nine parishes to help guide watershed-based solutions within Region 4. The CPC will set up a permanent coalition for Region 4 where future hazard mitigation funding will flow through. The Region 4 Parishes appointed Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission (SWLA RPC) to serve as the fiscal agent and organizing body. As fiscal agent the SWLA RPC will facilitate the establishment of the Region 4 watershed coalition.

<https://lwiregion4.com/>

Region 5



The Acadiana Watershed District (AWD) began as the LWI Region 5. In June 2023, the Louisiana state legislature recognized the AWD as a political subdivision, (Act 323 of 2023) with authority to levy a tax to promote drainage and reduce flood risk in Region 5. The Acadiana Planning Commission (APC) serves as the organizing body and the fiscal agent for watershed activities for the LWI Region 5 and the AWD. The Region encompasses 16 parishes and five Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 watersheds: Atchafalaya, Teche, Vermilion, Mermentau, and Mermentau Headwaters. APC is working to improve watershed management practices by coordinating flood risk planning across the region with nearly \$27 million received for flood resilience projects in the watershed. LWI has produced a 'Strategies for Funding Watershed Management and Flood-Risk Reduction in Louisiana' and it is available on their website.

<https://www.planacadiana.org/watershed-management/watershed-planning/about-acadiana-watershed-district>

4.20 Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority



The Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana encompassing Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermilion Parishes. It was established in 2010 in response to the growing need for coordinated and consolidated communication and action amongst local, state, and federal agencies regarding coastal restoration and protection efforts. The primary duty of the Authority's Board of Commissioners is to establish, construct, operate, or maintain flood control works as they relate to hurricane protection, tidewater flooding, saltwater intrusion, and conservation.

A secondary duty of the Board is to establish flood control, adequate drainage relating to tidal or riverine flooding, and water resources development. This includes but is not limited to construction of reservoirs, diversion canals, gravity and pump drainage systems, erosion control measures, and marsh management. The Board is also authorized to enter into contracts and agreements. At this time the Authority does not serve as a funding source but as a valuable advisory and advocate for Cameron Parish.

<http://www.cpcrpa.org/>

4.21 The Nature Conservancy



The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a global environmental nonprofit that partners with individuals, local communities, government agencies, and private businesses to protect the natural landscapes. They also collaborate with partner organizations in the field and

with governments and other influencers to inform policy decisions and direct public funding to further their mission to conserve lands and waters.

As of 2024, TNC has constructed 10 miles of oyster restoration/shoreline protection projects, including four miles in Calcasieu Lake. These projects are restoring oyster populations, slowing loss of coastal wetlands, and increasing production of recreationally and commercially important seafood species. They also support legislation that continues to restore and maintain the natural coastal habitats that protect communities and enhance economies.

TNC in Louisiana has more than 20 staff members who are devoted to protecting and conserving this state.

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/louisiana/>

4.22 The Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana



The Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana (The Foundation) is a local investment house for doing good in SWLA. The Foundation also collaborates with public agencies and private enterprises to conduct projects that solve fundamental problems in a particular sector or improves the quality of life for residents. Projects include planting trees and helping residents rebuild stronger after storms and other disasters. Since 2008, the Foundation and their donors have granted over \$20.3 million to nonprofits.

The Foundation makes it easier for philanthropists to manage and grow giving, and to make sure their generosity translates into enduring improvements for our communities. The Foundation received a \$2.5 million grant from SWLA native and co-founder of Yahoo!, David Filo and his wife Angela. This donation allowed the Foundation to contract a world-class consulting team to work with the residents of Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes to develop a "50-Year Resilience Master Plan for Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes" to address public needs and concerns. The result is the shared vision entitled "Just Imagine SWLA".

4.23 Just Imagine SWLA



Facilitated by the Community Foundation Southwest Louisiana, the Just Imagine master plan is the result of regional collaboration. Two parishes, five cities, two towns, federal and state agencies, public authorities, school boards, elected officials, private industry, utility providers, universities and colleges, professional and civic organizations, non-profits, and everyday citizens came together to develop a shared vision for Southwest Louisiana. Improving access to the region's beautiful natural amenities, expanding entertainment and cultural experiences, providing housing that individuals and families can afford, and investing in resilient infrastructure will strengthen the economy and prepare the region for the next 50 years. Coastal flood risk reduction was the highest ranked need in the plan with 92% of the votes favoring this plan of action.

[Coastal Flood Risk Reduction | Just Imagine SWLA](#)

4.24 Local Parish Funds

Cameron Parish can utilize local, discretionary funds in designing and constructing coastal projects. The Police Jury and its special taxing districts can leverage local property taxes and other revenues to partner with any of the aforementioned funding sources.

DRAFT

Section 5.0 Project Sequencing

5.1 General Types of Projects

Cameron Parish’s diverse landscape of habitats and ecosystems has led to a multi-faceted approach in resolving the pressing issues. The proposed project types and project elements are delineated in accordance with the ‘2023 Louisiana’s Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast’ (“2023 Master Plan”) in Appendix F. Brief descriptions of each follows.

Restoration Projects

- **Hydrologic Restoration** – Installation of features that improve and/or restore natural hydrologic patterns either by conveying fresh water to areas that have been cut off by human-caused features or by preventing the intrusion of salt water into fresh areas through human-caused channels and eroded wetlands.
- **Ridge Restoration** – Re-establishment of historic coastal ridges and forested maritime habitat through sediment placement and new plantings to restore natural ridge functions.
- **Marsh Creation** – Creation of new wetlands in open water areas—including bays, ponds, and canals—through sediment dredging and placement. Most projects involve pipeline conveyance of sediment.
- **Landbridge** – Landbridge projects are linear tracts of constructed land features oriented across coastal basins. Landbridges create habitat, attenuate waves, control the dispersal of sediment, and mitigate saltwater intrusion.
- **Diversions** – Use of relevant construction techniques to restore long-shore sediment transport for coastal Cameron Parish. 2023 MP - Appendix F, 1.6: “Diversions convey freshwater and sediment from rivers into adjacent wetland basins. These projects restore historic deltaic processes, build new land, nourish existing wetlands, and prevent saltwater incursion into the estuary.”
- **Integrated Projects** – Integrated projects is a new category in the 2023 MP consisting of two or more of the traditional restoration project types listed above. Integrated projects may also include features from project types or project elements now considered programmatically, including Shoreline Protection, Bank Stabilization, or Oyster Reef Restoration.

Restoration Project Elements

- **Shoreline Protection** – Shoreline Protection consists of the installation of rock or low wave action breakwaters to reduce wave energies on shorelines, in open bays, lakes, sounds, and bayous. These projects also include work on navigation channels.
- **Bank Stabilization** - refers to onshore placement of earthen fill and plantings designed to reduce wave energy. Bank stabilization also maintains shorelines in open bays, lakes, and bayous. Bank stabilization projects include work on navigation channels.
- **Oyster Reef Restoration** – Construction of bioengineered oyster reefs to improve oyster propagation and serve as breakwaters to attenuate wave energies.
- **Barrier Islands** – use of dredged material to rebuild and strengthen the beaches, dunes, and back barrier marshes of degrading barrier islands.

Risk Reduction Projects

- Structural Risk Reduction
- Non-Structural Risk Reduction

Given recent federal appellate court decisions regarding navigation channel maintenance, the CPRA has begun an analysis to decide how these projects should be funded. This analysis will include recommendations for policy change and estimates of associated costs coastwide. For purposes of this PLAN, we assume that funding of these projects to be the responsibility of the federal government. When the CPRA codifies its final policy in this matter, the project costs and funding strategy will be adjusted, as necessary. An illustration of the relevant strategies and construction types that are available to address coastal restoration and protection issues throughout Cameron Parish is illustrated in Figure 19.

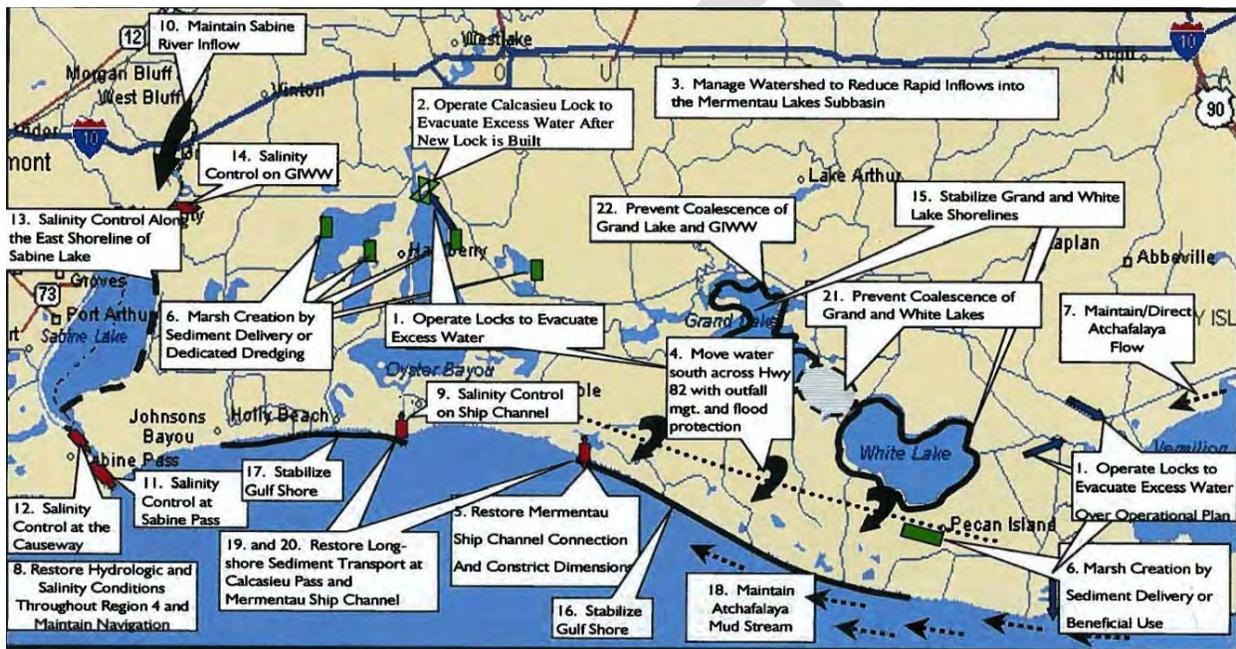


Figure 9 2050 Regional 4 publication strategies

In the 2023 Coastal Master Plan, 16 projects were selected in the Chenier Plain region, including several marsh creation projects spread across the region. Through the help of the Chenier Plain Regional Workgroup, the locations of these marsh creation projects were chosen to address current and future land loss concerns, such as strengthening the shoreline of Calcasieu Lake and other important regional water bodies. Large-scale hydrologic restoration projects were also selected for the region. These projects were designed, with input from our advisory groups, to provide improved drainage in both the upper Mermentau Basin and the Cameron-Creole Watershed.

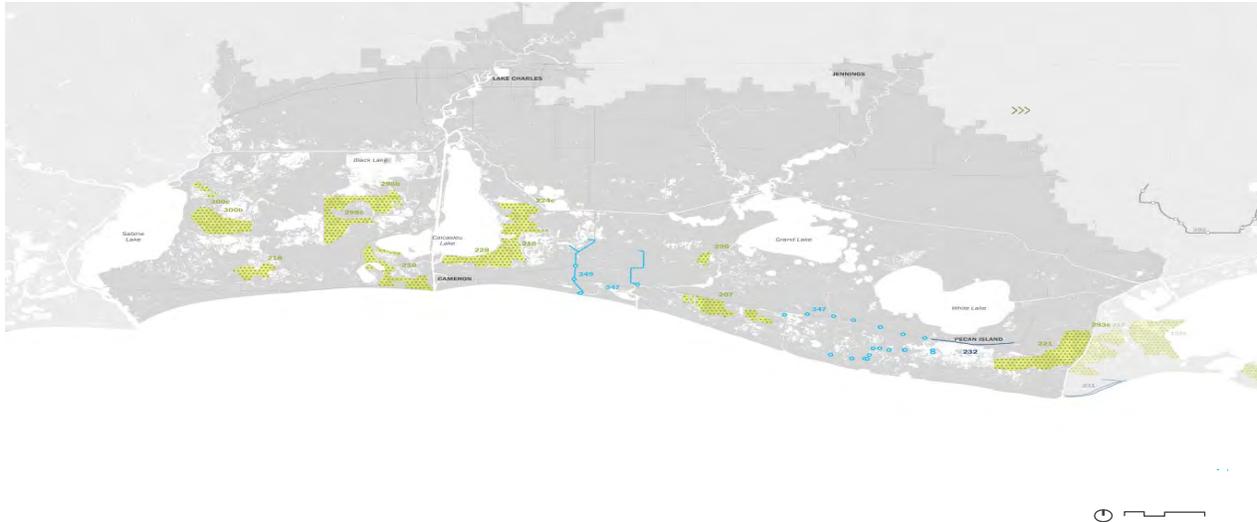


Figure 109 For the 2023 Coastal Master Plan Marsh restoration (light green), hydrologic restoration (blue) and ridge restoration (black line) are selected.

5.2 Project Development

On the following pages of this Plan, you will find a list of the relevant projects considered as well as data representing the most common project types. These projects are submitted with the intention of alleviating coastal restoration and protection challenges as identified during plan development. The project factsheets will be developed by the CWG and included in Appendix G. The fact sheets will provide preliminary project descriptions of their cost and scope. The cost and scope will be refined when engineering and design is conducted for a project. Projects with no available factsheet and path forward will be determined and provided as project matures.

In developing a list of all previously nominated projects for the Parish as well as projects nominated by residents, landowners, Parish engineers, State and Federal agencies, and Police Jury Administrative staff for inclusion in this plan, 235 projects were listed. As a result of the project development efforts of the drainage boards, landowners, and parish engineers, the following types of projects were proposed for inclusion in the plan. The breakdown in the number of projects by construction type is as follows:

- Marsh creation projects - 52
- Hydrologic restoration projects - 116
- Shoreline protection and bank stabilization projects - 35
- Ridge restoration projects - TBD
- Flood Protection - 32

On the following pages you will find in Table 1, a list of projects nominated by or to the project team. The list of projects is separated by basin and project type. Information provided is the mechanism on which this project was submitted. The main avenues that these projects were nominated through stakeholder engagement and the Cameron Master Plan nomination process conducted by the Cameron Parish Police Jury with inclusion of State projects. It should also be noted that projects included in this list have varying current statuses ranging from the conceptual phase to engineering and design to a project that is shovel ready. The CWG will rank and prioritize these projects according to need and significance.

Table 1. Cameron Parish Projects Master List organized by type.

Marsh Creation				
Number	Name	Project Type	Acreage	
1	Big Burn	Marsh Creation	2135.38	
2	Big Lake	Marsh Creation	206.91	
3	Black Lake	Marsh Creation	5611.46	
4	Blocks Creek	Marsh Creation	2278.58	
5	Browns Lake	Marsh Creation	4447.02	
6	Cameron Creole	Marsh Creation	40309.05	
7	Cameron Meadows East	Marsh Creation	3654.39	
8	Cameron Meadows West	Marsh Creation	3527.18	
9	Central Mud Lake	Marsh Creation	227.47	
10	Double Island	Marsh Creation	2005.57	
11	East Black Lake	Marsh Creation	1142.87	
12	East Five Lakes	Marsh Creation	3254.09	
13	Five Lake North	Marsh Creation	1609.05	
14	Five Lakes	Marsh Creation	7210.41	
15	Greens Lake	Marsh Creation	4144.81	
16	Gum Cove West	Marsh Creation	5902.51	
17	Kelso Bayou	Marsh Creation	390.32	
18	Kelso Bayou East	Marsh Creation	147.89	
19	Lacassine Bayou	Marsh Creation	708.88	
20	North Black Lake	Marsh Creation	4636.53	
21	North Erbelding	Marsh Creation	3067.28	
22	North Little Pecan Bayou	Marsh Creation	276.83	
23	North Mud Lake	Marsh Creation	1575.24	
24	North Pines	Marsh Creation	4028.04	
25	Northeast Black Lake	Marsh Creation	1404.03	
26	Northeast Mud Lake	Marsh Creation	2182.91	
27	Oak Grove South	Marsh Creation	628.77	
28	Oyster Lake	Marsh Creation	341.05	
29	Pintail	Marsh Creation	1223.59	
30	Price Lake Beach	Marsh Creation	35.62	
31	Ridge Restoration	Marsh Creation	417.07	
32	Sabine Pass East	Marsh Creation	279.88	
33	Smith Ridge	Marsh Creation	1042.23	
34	South B1 Canal	Marsh Creation	197.22	
35	South Black Lake	Marsh Creation	3420.49	

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36	South Catfish Lake	Marsh Creation	1119.83	
37	South Central Canal	Marsh Creation	3778.78	
38	South Grand Chenier	Marsh Creation	5079.60	
39	South Grand Chenier 2	Marsh Creation	669.02	
40	South Grand Chenier 3	Marsh Creation	1996.11	
41	South Oyster Bayou	Marsh Creation	297.40	
42	South Perry Ridge	Marsh Creation	1550.54	
43	South Pines	Marsh Creation	9779.25	
44	South Willow Bayou	Marsh Creation	5164.95	
45	Southeast Mud Lake	Marsh Creation	634.05	
46	Southeast Willow Bayou	Marsh Creation	2453.34	
47	Southwest Perry Ridge	Marsh Creation	3816.92	
48	Sweet Lake Willow Lake	Marsh Creation	2109.73	
49	Trappers Lake	Marsh Creation	941.44	
50	Waist Deep	Marsh Creation	948.05	
51	West Big Burns	Marsh Creation	1672.26	
52	West Willow Bayou	Marsh Creation	3669.60	
Marsh Creation Totals			159351.49	
Hydrologic Restoration - Lines				
Number	Name	Project Type	Length (FT)	Length (Miles)
1	Water control through Little Chenier Road	Hydrologic Restoration	74102.73	14.03
2	Freshwater intro South Hwy 82	Hydrologic Restoration	27697.02	5.25
3	Freshwater intro South Hwy 82	Hydrologic Restoration	401.92	0.08
4	GDD#5 Structures-Levee #2 section	Hydrologic Restoration	18741.83	3.55
5	GDD#5 Structures-Levee #1 section	Hydrologic Restoration	37108.37	7.03
6	GDD#5 Structures/Rockefeller Protection levee & Structures-Rockefeller Protection Levee	Hydrologic Restoration	92894.50	17.59
7	GDD#5 Structures/Rockefeller Protection levee & Structures-Little Chenier Road Flood Prevention for East Creole	Hydrologic Restoration	74445.28	14.10
8	GDD#5 Structures/Rockefeller Protection levee & Structures-Big Burns Spillway West	Hydrologic Restoration	553.92	0.10
9	GDD#5 Structures/Rockefeller Protection levee & Structures-Dredge	Hydrologic Restoration	1902.81	0.36
10	GDD#5 Structures/Rockefeller Protection levee & Structures-Dredge	Hydrologic Restoration	1959.80	0.37
11	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	10813.67	2.05
12	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	1384.26	0.26
13	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	23118.09	4.38
14	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	9149.03	1.73
15	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	1153.31	0.22

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16	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	9344.30	1.77
17	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	6120.48	1.16
18	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	8441.29	1.60
19	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	7176.28	1.36
20	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	15532.34	2.94
21	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	10231.63	1.94
22	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	7770.10	1.47
23	Hydrologic Restoration	Hydrologic Restoration	272.57	0.05
Hydrologic Restoration Totals			440315.52	83.39
Hydrologic Restoration - Points				
Number	Name	Feature Type	Lat	Long
1	1- 36" flapgate	Hydrologic Restoration	29.744999	-92.857240
2	1-36" flapgate	Hydrologic Restoration	29.746925	-92.856781
3	1-36" flapgate	Hydrologic Restoration	29.743585	-92.857405
4	1-48" flapgate	Hydrologic Restoration	29.743475	-92.856702
5	2-36" flapgates	Hydrologic Restoration	29.745960	-92.856663
6	27 Clean Out	Hydrologic Restoration	29.940350	-93.081526
7	3 Bayou	Hydrologic Restoration	29.913256	-93.759230
8	36" open pipe	Hydrologic Restoration	29.752366	-92.846570
9	36" pipe	Hydrologic Restoration	29.752436	-92.848210
10	ANR Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.777122	-93.004962
11	Armond Richard Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.769640	-92.953664
12	Black Bayou East Sill	Hydrologic Restoration	29.980188	-93.714445
13	Bell City Drain Ditch	Hydrologic Restoration	29.930729	-92.958011
14	Big Burns Spillway	Hydrologic Restoration	29.839669	-92.874664
15	Big Constance Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.618052	-92.654383
16	Big Lake	Hydrologic Restoration	29.975008	-93.270847
17	Big Lake 2	Hydrologic Restoration	29.976105	-93.267620
18	Big Mouth Bayou	Hydrologic Restoration	29.795833	-92.882364
19	Black Bayou East Plug	Hydrologic Restoration	29.980566	-93.714851
20	Black Bayou West Plug	Hydrologic Restoration	29.996551	-93.756050
21	Black Bayou West Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.995376	-93.758013
22	Black Lake Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.992274	-93.446159
23	Calcasieu Pass	Hydrologic Restoration	29.775115	-93.350571
24	Chenier Perdue	Hydrologic Restoration	29.806993	-92.878302
25	Clean Out	Hydrologic Restoration	29.979583	-93.080018
26	Deep Bayou	Hydrologic Restoration	29.789522	-93.748729
27	Dyson Plug	Hydrologic Restoration	29.617925	-92.632825

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28	Dyson Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.617661	-92.628663
29	East End Locks	Hydrologic Restoration	29.711818	-92.765655
30	East End Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.711419	-92.764886
31	Grand Lake	Hydrologic Restoration	29.860704	-92.847665
32	Grand Lake South	Hydrologic Restoration	29.813120	-92.686137
33	Hess Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.625632	-92.625249
34	Joesphine Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.639693	-92.618714
35	Kelso Bayou 1	Hydrologic Restoration	30.008303	-93.334476
36	Kelso Bayou 2	Hydrologic Restoration	30.002947	-93.353792
37	Kelso Bayou 3	Hydrologic Restoration	30.002413	-93.382236
38	King Bayou	Hydrologic Restoration	29.776303	-93.008606
39	Klondike	Hydrologic Restoration	29.931206	-92.650362
40	Lee Broussard	Hydrologic Restoration	29.774976	-92.936557
41	Little Chenier	Hydrologic Restoration	29.822688	-92.881584
42	Little Constance Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.626532	-92.689154
43	Mhire Structure #1	Hydrologic Restoration	29.743486	-92.856678
44	Mhire Structure #2	Hydrologic Restoration	29.745906	-92.856767
45	Mud Lake North	Hydrologic Restoration	29.801076	-93.474915
46	North Black Lake	Hydrologic Restoration	30.045298	-93.443712
47	North Canal	Hydrologic Restoration	29.931292	-93.029911
48	North Island Spillway	Hydrologic Restoration	29.664815	-92.714392
49	Oak Grove	Hydrologic Restoration	29.785461	-93.114835
50	Pine Pasture Road	Hydrologic Restoration	30.031632	-93.046900
51	Pines Plug	Hydrologic Restoration	29.950943	-93.754617
52	Pumpkin Bayou	Hydrologic Restoration	29.771625	-92.991237
53	Richard Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.771604	-92.991213
54	Royalite Plug	Hydrologic Restoration	29.629560	-92.712221
55	Salt Ditch	Hydrologic Restoration	30.055891	-93.374820
56	Salt Ditch 2	Hydrologic Restoration	30.012879	-93.380237
57	Salt Ditch 3	Hydrologic Restoration	30.010982	-93.366153
58	South Hackberry	Hydrologic Restoration	29.936526	-93.375221
59	South Hackberry 2	Hydrologic Restoration	29.929974	-93.377504
60	South JB	Hydrologic Restoration	29.748356	-93.748253
61	South Oak Grove	Hydrologic Restoration	29.757084	-93.104006
62	Structure #12	Hydrologic Restoration	29.772722	-92.935625
63	Structure #13	Hydrologic Restoration	29.771889	-92.932705
64	Structure #15	Hydrologic Restoration	29.771750	-92.925398
65	Structure #16	Hydrologic Restoration	29.771334	-92.922013

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66	Structure #17	Hydrologic Restoration	29.770883	-92.911428
67	Structure #18	Hydrologic Restoration	29.771387	-92.907496
68	Structure #19	Hydrologic Restoration	29.769461	-92.897290
69	Structure #20	Hydrologic Restoration	29.772541	-92.888089
70	Structure #21	Hydrologic Restoration	29.777946	-92.884076
71	Structure #22	Hydrologic Restoration	29.784018	-92.872771
72	Structure #23	Hydrologic Restoration	29.783132	-92.865211
73	Structure #24	Hydrologic Restoration	29.780454	-92.848788
74	Structure #25	Hydrologic Restoration	29.781567	-92.844708
75	Structure #26	Hydrologic Restoration	29.781101	-92.831990
76	Structure #28	Hydrologic Restoration	29.777664	-92.800991
77	Structure #29	Hydrologic Restoration	29.777663	-92.788374
78	Structure #3	Hydrologic Restoration	29.775007	-92.936580
79	Structure #30	Hydrologic Restoration	29.780716	-92.781596
80	Structure #34	Hydrologic Restoration	29.719569	-92.848176
81	Structure #35	Hydrologic Restoration	29.719467	-92.848373
82	Structure #4	Hydrologic Restoration	29.774154	-92.923831
83	Structure #5	Hydrologic Restoration	29.778113	-92.910145
84	Structure #6	Hydrologic Restoration	29.795854	-92.882346
85	Structure #7	Hydrologic Restoration	29.807015	-92.878301
86	Structure #8	Hydrologic Restoration	29.822749	-92.881584
87	Structure #9	Hydrologic Restoration	29.847669	-92.867369
88	Texaco Cut	Hydrologic Restoration	30.025262	-93.325620
89	Unit 4 Freshwater Intro Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.704193	-92.729246
90	Unit 5 Freshwater Intro	Hydrologic Restoration	29.634014	-92.711285
91	Whites Ditch Control Structure	Hydrologic Restoration	29.959317	-93.182595
92	Willow Bayou	Hydrologic Restoration	29.877965	-93.769686
Hydrologic Restoration - Poly				
Number	Name	Project Type	Acreage	
1	Freshwater intro South Hwy 82	Hydrologic Restoration	3641.64	
Flood Protection				
Number	Name	Project Type	Length (FT)	Length (Miles)
1	Big Burns Spillway West	Flood Protection	553.92	0.10
2	Big Pasture	Flood Protection	65135.62	12.34
3	Calcasieu	Flood Protection	27120.48	5.14
4	Calcasieu	Flood Protection	27605.83	5.23
5	Cameron Protection	Flood Protection	85018.12	16.10
6	Cameron to Mermentau	Flood Protection	133700.68	25.32

**Cameron Parish Police Jury
Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection**

7	Camerson/Creole Recap	Flood Protection	80714.34	15.29
8	Chenier Option	Flood Protection	258336.22	48.93
9	Dredge	Flood Protection	1902.81	0.36
10	Dredge	Flood Protection	1959.80	0.37
11	East Gate	Flood Protection	285.07	0.05
12	Evacuation Route	Flood Protection	82699.78	15.66
13	Hackberry	Flood Protection	4856.65	0.92
14	Hackberry	Flood Protection	109799.99	20.80
15	Hog Bayou Levee Recap #1	Flood Protection	57465.17	10.88
16	Hog Bayou Levee Recap #2	Flood Protection	51935.55	9.84
17	Hog Bayou Levee Recap #3	Flood Protection	21512.35	4.07
18	JB Levee	Flood Protection	98538.48	18.66
19	JB Option	Flood Protection	34678.12	6.57
20	JB Shoreline Protection	Flood Protection	138079.42	26.15
21	Levee	Flood Protection	126079.83	23.88
22	Levee	Flood Protection	126079.83	23.88
23	Levee #1	Flood Protection	36852.00	6.98
24	Levee #2	Flood Protection	18738.02	3.55
25	Little Chenier	Flood Protection	54273.12	10.28
26	Little Chenier Road Flood Prevention for East Creole	Flood Protection	70138.39	13.28
27	Option	Flood Protection	53335.75	10.10
28	Option	Flood Protection	54799.83	10.38
29	Rockefeller Protection Levee	Flood Protection	92894.50	17.59
30	South Oak Grove Levee Recap	Flood Protection	40393.62	7.65
31	West Gate	Flood Protection	307.26	0.06
32	Already constructed	Flood Protection	100782.69	19.09
Flood Protection Totals			2056573.25	389.50
Shoreline Protection				
Number	Name	Project Type	Length (FT)	Length (Miles)
1	7 Mile	Shoreline Protection	41348.50	7.83
2	Big Constance Shoreline protection	Shoreline Protection	51984.31	9.85
3	Black Lake	Shoreline Protection	16806.67	3.18
4	Black Lake 2	Shoreline Protection	11717.41	2.22
5	Central Cameron	Shoreline Protection	107596.24	20.38
6	Coastal Club	Shoreline Protection	18550.71	3.51
7	Coffee Ground Cove	Shoreline Protection	17864.54	3.38
8	Collicon Lake	Shoreline Protection	15266.57	2.89
9	Collicon South	Shoreline Protection	6038.53	1.14
10	East Cameron	Shoreline Protection	152110.39	28.81
11	Grand Lake East	Shoreline Protection	15732.69	2.98
12	Grand Lake North	Shoreline Protection	149803.73	28.37

**Cameron Parish Police Jury
Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection**

13	Grand Lake South	Shoreline Protection	12805.16	2.43
14	Grand Lake West	Shoreline Protection	28614.78	5.42
15	Lacassine Bayou North	Shoreline Protection	19119.56	3.62
16	Lacassine Bayou South	Shoreline Protection	21656.39	4.10
17	Lake Misere	Shoreline Protection	85057.32	16.11
18	Mermentau River Jetty Sediment Bypass Structure	Shoreline Protection	6845.44	1.30
19	Mud Lake	Shoreline Protection	6572.81	1.24
20	Mud Lake Peninsula	Shoreline Protection	8475.28	1.61
21	Nine Mile to Joes	Shoreline Protection	21292.76	4.03
22	North bank	Shoreline Protection	14592.28	2.76
23	North Mud Lake	Shoreline Protection	10977.06	2.08
24	Oyster Lake	Shoreline Protection	8679.28	1.64
25	Sabine Lake	Shoreline Protection	39862.23	7.55
26	Sabine Lake South	Shoreline Protection	47106.66	8.92
27	South Bank	Shoreline Protection	16154.54	3.06
28	South Grand Lake	Shoreline Protection	36215.96	6.86
29	South Oak Grove	Shoreline Protection	19772.06	3.74
30	Sweet Lake N	Shoreline Protection	27525.02	5.21
31	Sweet Lake S	Shoreline Protection	7813.51	1.48
32	Sweet Lake S2	Shoreline Protection	18421.70	3.49
33	Washout	Shoreline Protection	20208.03	3.83
34	West Cameron	Shoreline Protection	160954.02	30.48
35	Willow Lake	Shoreline Protection	24432.31	4.63
Shoreline Protection Totals			1267974.45	240.13

Note: Factsheets that are available on these projects can be found in Appendix G.

5.3 Project Evaluation

This list will be used in the prioritization of available projects to be submitted as part of future programs or when funding sources are available. When a funding source becomes available, the Coastal Zone Administrator and the CWG will present to the Cameron Parish Police Jury a list of projects to discuss. Prior to the meeting, the CWG members will identify and rank the top projects that fit within funding constraints based on the criteria identified in Section 3.3. Once the rankings have taken place, a second evaluation of the highest-ranking projects will take place.

Following the second evaluation of the highest ranked projects, the CWG members will recommend projects for funding to be ratified during a voting meeting of the Cameron Parish Police Jury. The number and scope of the projects will be dependent on the availability of budgeted funds to construct these projects.

Section 6.0 Plan Maintenance

6.1 Updates

The Parish proposes the following items to serve as the process for updates and maintenance, ensuring that the PLAN remains flexible and effective as a working document that provides adequate flexibility in implementation.

The PLAN will coincide with the effectiveness and guidance from the CWG and the Cameron Parish Police Jury. The CWG will hold quarterly meetings to address any ongoing issues throughout the parish as it pertains to coastal restoration and protection efforts and the PLAN. It is expected that these meetings will serve as a catalyst in maintaining and updating the PLAN. To remain consistent with other similar plans, a minimum update of the PLAN will be needed at least once every five years.

When relevant information is identified, the CWG will meet within 30 days to evaluate its impact on the PLAN and prepare recommendations for the Police Jury's consideration at their next scheduled session. There is no mandatory, established timeline for annual updates of the PLAN; however, review and deliberations of the merits of the PLAN will be continuous. It is recommended that the PLAN should be updated in alignment with the State's Coastal Master Plan, which is every five or six years.

Public participation will continue to play a key role in the maintenance of the PLAN. With such a large land mass that the parish encompasses, various features and interests will be under evaluation. It is highly likely that these features and interests will need to be expressed in venues that are conducive to public comment and active involvement. The expressed issues will arise in a variety of ways such as comments on the Parish's webpage, correspondence with Parish staff, comments at Police Jury meetings, and especially discussions derived during meetings of the CWG. The Police Jury will rely heavily on the advisement of the CWG and other stakeholders, including drainage board members and Parish residents.

6.2 Moving Forward



The Cameron Parish Police Jury realizes the vitality and importance of its coastal areas and habitats. The Parish will continue the concerted effort of working with neighboring parishes to foster collaboration and cooperation on the implementation of these and future coastal restoration and protection initiatives.

Cameron Parish will continue to work with state and federal agencies in all ancillary funding programs as it relates to coastal restoration and protection. Continued support of the CWPPRA program as well as CPRA's initiatives will continue to be beneficial. In fact, this 2025 PLAN will allow the Parish to have more of its goals known and met by providing a cohesive format that addresses the collective coastal restoration and protection issues.

CPRA's 2023 Master Plan project development program will serve as a template in developing and screening the parish's proposed project list. This list includes the existing restoration project types as outlined in the State's 2023 Master Plan, as well as any updates included for future Master Plans. These additions and/or revisions may include shifts in the coastal landscape, the uncertainty of climate change, and adaptive management.

Louisiana residents care about preserving the environment and the places they call home. Land conservation helps improve water quality and supply, boosts resiliency against storms and provides habitat for diverse species. Protecting land also has economic benefits such as support for agricultural productivity and creating more opportunities for people to get outdoors and connect with nature. Investing in land conservation today ensures a healthier, more resilient environment and quality of life for all who call our state home. The PLAN seeks to balance the economic benefits of industry and commerce with the need to protect and restore vital natural resources and habitats and intends to serve as a comprehensive guide and tool for the preservation and restoration of our great Parish and its people... After all, it is our Future!

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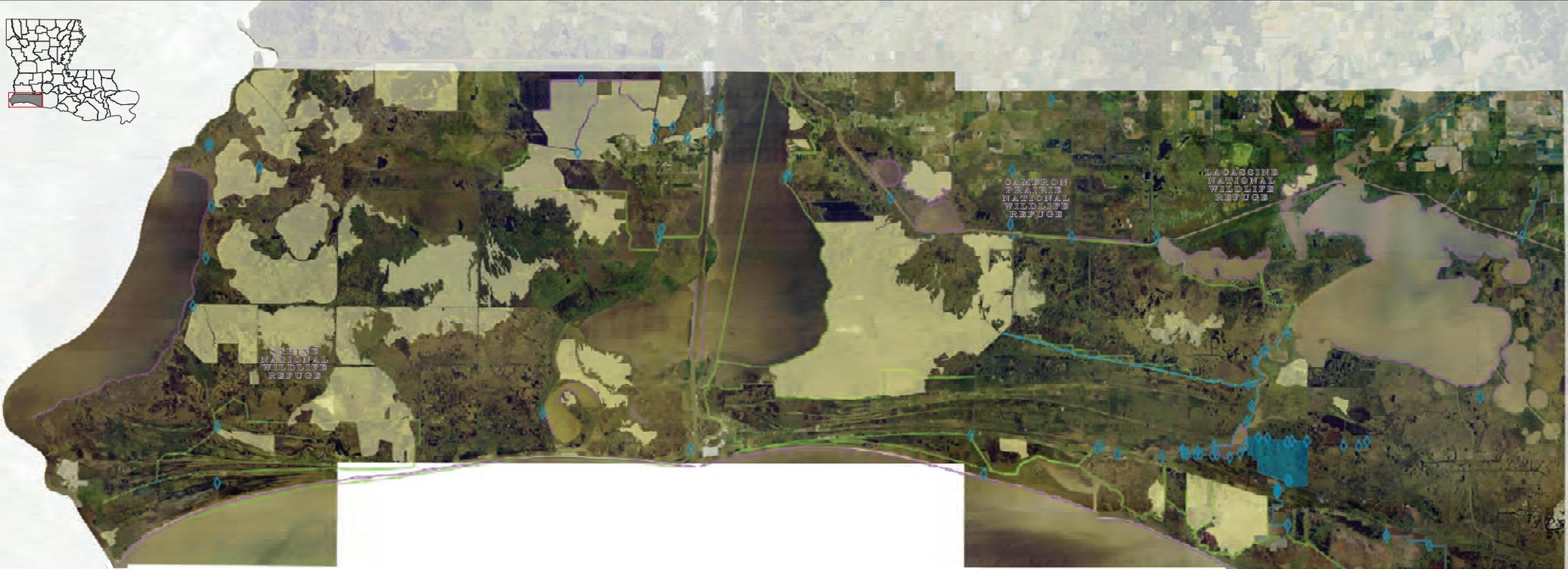
Appendix A

Coastal Restoration Committee (CRC) Members:

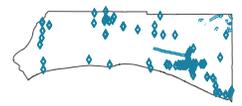
The Cameron Parish Police Jury honors the contributions of the following CRC members in helping to guide and establish the 2014 'Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection':

Albert John Crain	Howard Romero
Beau Barbe	Jerome Carter
Bill Bruce	Jimmy Roberts
Bill Dore	Kara Bonsall
Bob Dew	Kevin Boudreaux
Carl Broussard	Kevin Savoie
Cecil Sanner	Leslie Griffith
Chad Courville	Lonnie Harper
Curt Marcantel	Martin Miller, III
D.Y. Doland, Jr.	Michael Harbison
Dan Nunez	Michael Semien, Sr.
Daryl Poole	Mike Johnson
David Richard	Myles Hebert
Don Voros	Patrick Landry
Doug Miller	Philip "Scooter" Trosclair
Dr. John Foret	Sen. Bob Hensgens
Dustin Farmer	Rep. Ryan Bourriaque
E. Scott Henry	Sen. Blade Morrish
Earnestine "Tina" Horn	Steven Landry
Ernest "Carol" Trahan	Stevie Trahan
Frank Chapman	T-Boy McCall
Glenn Harris	Ted Joanen
Goose Richard	Tom Hess
Greg Comeaux	Troy Mallach
Greg Wicke	Wesley Hardin

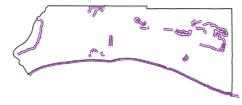
Appendix B



Hydrologic Restoration



Shoreline Protection



Marsh Creation

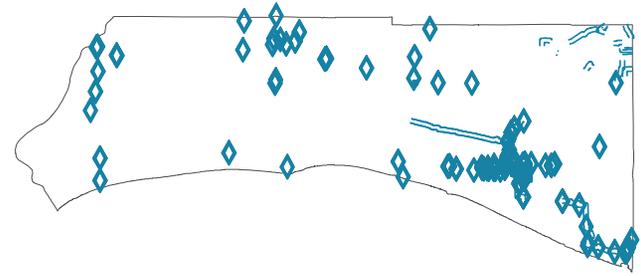


Flood Protection

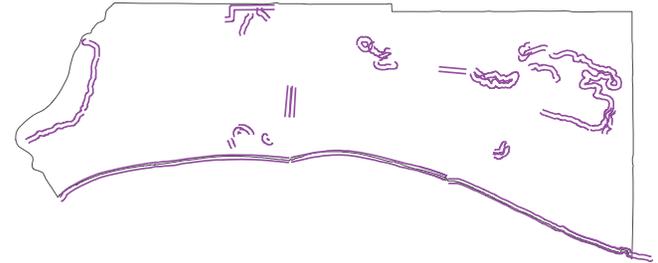




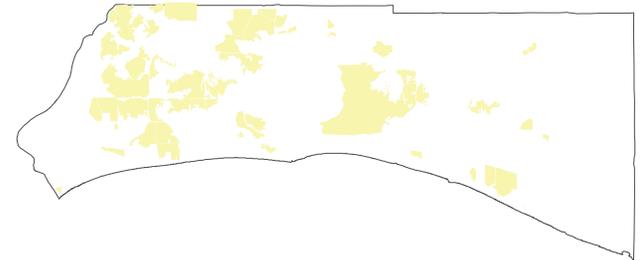
Hydrologic
Restoration



Shoreline
Protection



Marsh
Creation



Flood
Protection



LACASSINE
NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE

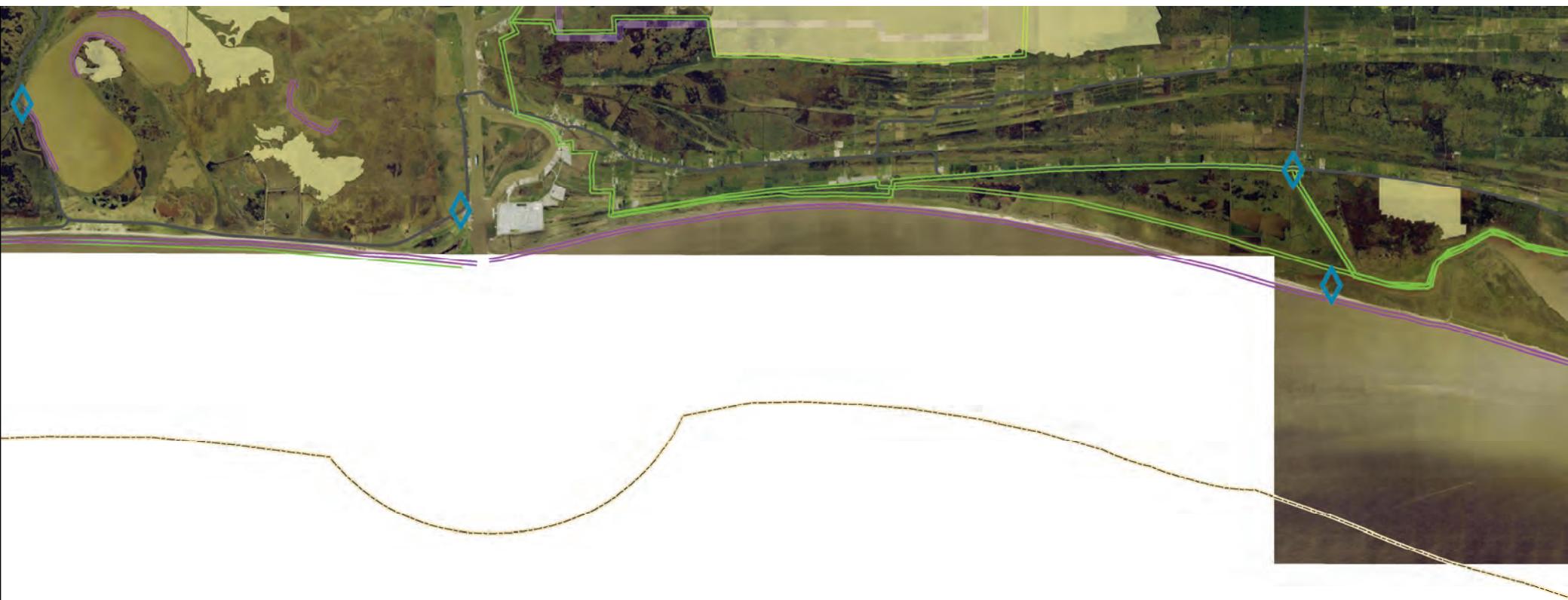
CAMERON
PRAIRIE
NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE



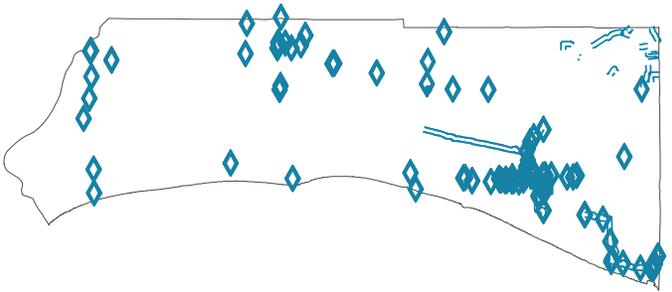


SABINE
NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE

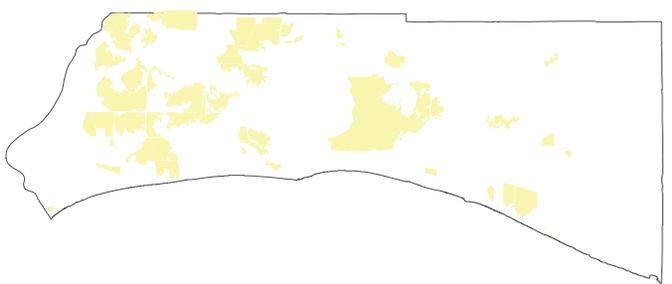
ROCKEFELLER
WILDLIFE REFUGE



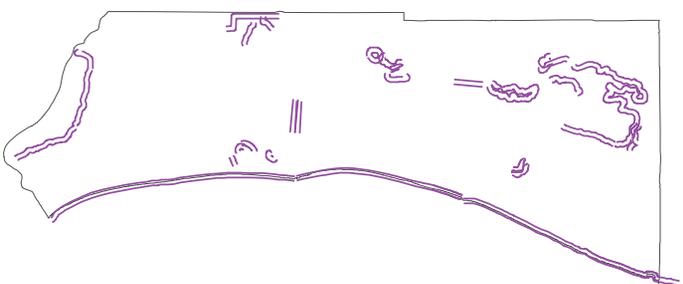
Hydrologic Restoration



Marsh Creation

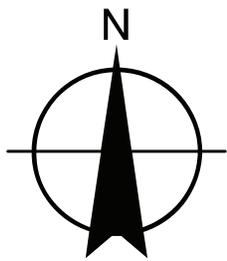
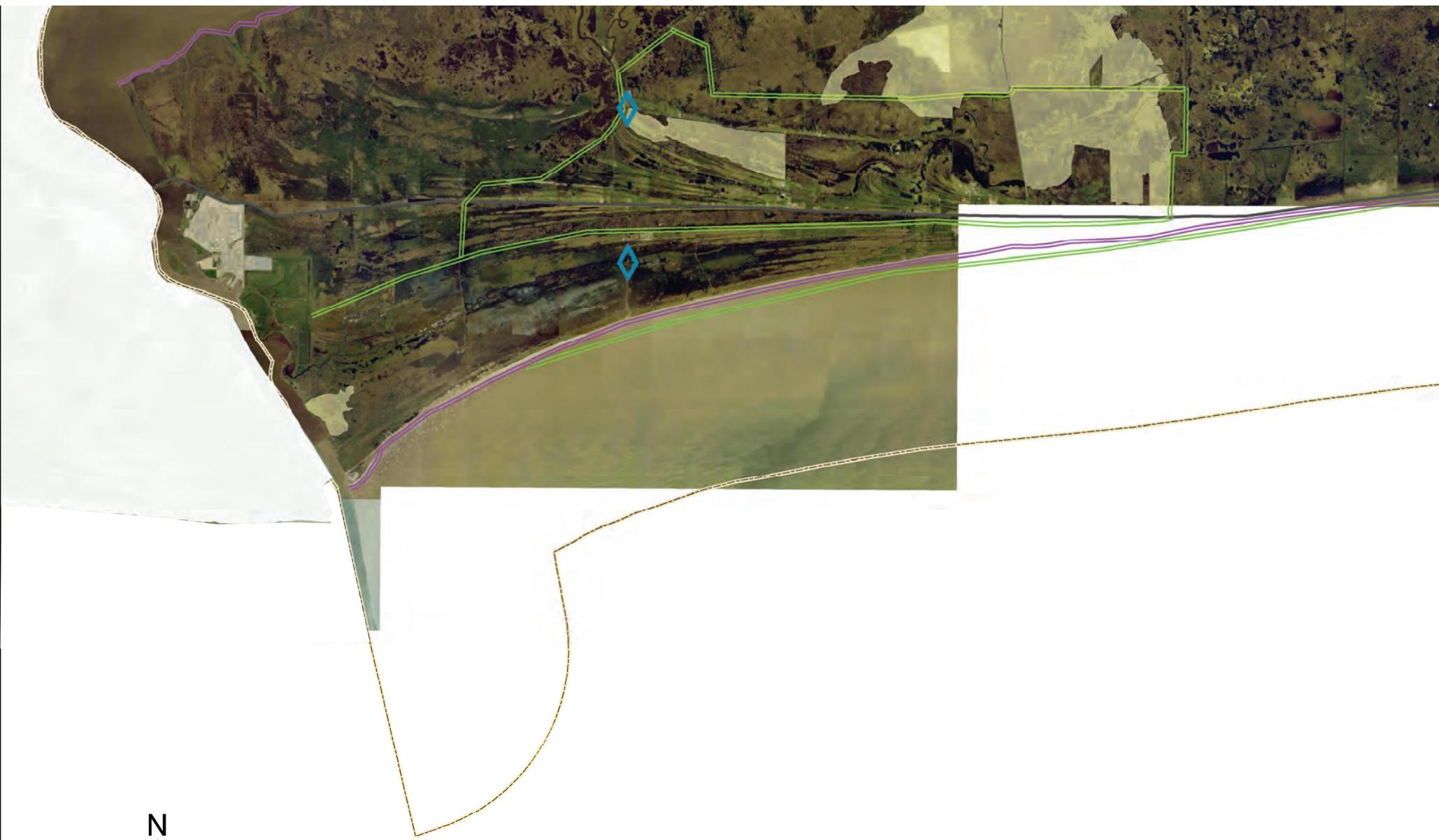


Shoreline Protection



Flood Protection





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Miles

Appendix C

Zoomed Maps To Be Added

Appendix D



Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES – Revisions and Updates to the **PLAN**

A series of open houses are planned to give the general public, stakeholders, and landowners the opportunity to provide input concerning Cameron Parish's Coastal Protection and Restoration needs and engage more closely with the Project Team on various project ideas, needs, and challenges. They will include several information stations where the public can engage with the Project Team on specific topics. The public will also have an opportunity to provide written comment on topics of interest.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025, 5:30PM
JOHNSON BAYOU COMMUNITY CENTER
5556 GULF BEACH HIGHWAY
JOHNSON BAYOU, LA 70631

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025, 5:30PM
CAMERON PARISH POLICE JURY WEST ANNEX
148 SMITH CIRCLE
CAMERON, LA 70631

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025, 5:30PM
HACKBERRY COMMUNITY CENTER
980 MAIN STREET
HACKBERRY, LA 70645

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025, 5:30PM
GRAND LAKE LIBRARY
10200 GULF HIGHWAY
GRAND LAKE, LA 70607

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025, 5:30PM
KLONDIKE COMMUNITY CENTER
434 VETERANS MEMORIAL DRIVE
GUEYDAN, LA 70542

Run:
March 13th, 20th, and 27th
April 3rd



Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

Public Comment Form
Please Submit Comments by May 9, 2025.

Comments or Projects can be submitted by
email to:
cameronmasterplan@tetrattech.com

By U.S. mail to:
Cameron Master Plan c/o Tetra Tech
3042 Old Forge Drive, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Email:

Project Description and Goals.

The Cameron Parish Police Jury is engaging the general public, stakeholders, and landowners to provide input concerning Cameron Parish's Coastal Restoration and Protection needs on various project ideas, needs, and challenges. The project team intends to identify, develop, and implement coastal restoration and protection processes and projects for Cameron Parish.

The goals of the Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection include:

1. Developing strategies to implement those projects that create, protect, restore, and enhance ecosystems and provide hurricane and storm damage reduction.
2. Providing a guide for future strategic planning efforts on the regional, state, and federal level.
3. Identifying all available funding sources for coastal restoration and protection projects in Cameron Parish.
4. Developing prioritization criteria for all coastal restoration and protection projects for Cameron Parish.

Please check the box next to the topic area(s) that you have comments/concerns about or would like to nominate a project for and write your comment or submission on the reverse side.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Protection/Control | <input type="checkbox"/> Marsh Creation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrologic Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline Protection/Bank Stabilization | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

For more information regarding this project please contact the project team through e-mail at cameronmasterplan@tetrattech.com.

Attendee Sign In – Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

JB

Name: Heather Trahan
Phone: 337-965-7155
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Community: Eunice

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Community: Crowley

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Community: Little Florida

Attendee Sign In – Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

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Community: Cameron Parish

Name: Rene Escuriex
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E-mail: RPE Rplbbe@gmail.com
Community: Johnson's Bayou/Cameron

Name: Joe CanLion
Phone: 225-229 2211
E-mail: _____
Community: _____

Name: Marsha Tratan
Phone: 337-569-2240
E-mail: Mtratan@drainage7.com
Community: JB - Drainage Dist 7

Name: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Community: _____

Hackberry

Attendee Sign In – Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

Name: Kara Bonsall
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Name: Rene Escuriex
Phone:
E-mail:
Community:

Name: Michael Fewell
Phone: 337-965-9033
E-mail: fewell.cameronparish70645@gmail.com
Community: Cameron Parish Police Juror Dist 2

Name: MARK TRAHAN
Phone: 337 842 3469
E-mail:
Community: Hackberry LA

Name: Brad Hantew
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E-mail:
Community: Hackberry La.

Name: Shawn Kyle
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Community: Hackberry - Waterworks + Gravity Drainage

Name: Scott Kyle
Phone: 337-225-2266
E-mail:
Community: Hackberry

Name: John Hardin
Phone: 337-485-1163
E-mail:
Community: Hackberry

Name: Phillip Parker
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Community: CPRA-LRO

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E-mail: mbyrne@auduboninstitute.org
Community: Audubon Nature Institute

* Cameron

Attendee Sign In – Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

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Community: GDD #3

Name: Phillip Parker
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Community: CPRA Lafayette Regional Office

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Community: CPRA - Baton Rouge

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Community: CPRA-Lafayette Regional Office

Name: Ivy Thibodeaux
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Community: CPRA Lafayette

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3-26-25

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Attendee Sign In – Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

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4-8-25

Attendee Sign In - Cameron Parish Comprehensive Plan for Coastal Restoration and Protection

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Appendix E

Chapter 5½ - COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Footnotes:

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Cross reference— *Flood damage prevention, Ch. 7; planning, Ch. 18; roads and drainage, Ch. 19; gravity drainage districts, § 20-79 et seq.*

ARTICLE I. - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 5½-1. - Title.

This chapter shall hereafter be known, referred to, and cited as "The Coastal Zone Management Regulations of Cameron Parish" (hereinafter referred to as "parish").

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 1.1)

Sec. 5½-2. - Purposes.

The Cameron Parish Coastal Zone Management Ordinance is hereby enacted for the purposes of:

- (1) Ensuring ecologically sound development in order to:
 - a. Preserve and enhance the resources of the coastal zone for the enjoyment of present and future generations;
 - b. Promote public safety, health, and welfare;
 - c. Protect wildlife, fisheries, aquatic life, estuarine, and other water resources;
 - d. Preserve and protect the remaining scenic and historic resources of the coastal zone;
 - e. To enhance opportunities for the use and enjoyment of the recreational values of the coastal zone; and
 - f. To develop and implement a coastal resources management program which is based on consideration of our resources, the environment, the needs of the people of the state, the nation, and of state and local government.
- (2) Promoting a balanced approach to development and conservation within the fragile ecosystem of the coastal zone, and support and encourage multiple use of coastal resources consistent with the maintenance and enhancement of renewable resource management.
- (3) To employ procedures and practices that resolve conflicts among competing uses within the coastal zone in accordance with Act 361, and to simplify administrative procedures.
- (4)

To express certain regulatory and nonregulatory policies for the coastal zone management program. Regulatory policies are to form a basis for administrative decisions to approve or disapprove activities only to the extent that such policies are contained in the statutes of this state or regulations duly adopted and promulgated by the Cameron Parish Police Jury. Other policies are nonregulatory. They are included in the coastal zone management plan to help set out priorities in administrative decisions and to inform the public and decision makers of a coherent state framework, but such policies are not binding on private parties.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 1.2)

Sec. 5½-3. - Scope of coverage.

All provisions of this chapter apply only to uses of local concern as prescribed by Act 361 of the Louisiana State Legislature, 1978, "State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act." All issues of state concern as prescribed by said Act will be directed to the appropriate state agency by the police jury for permit approval.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 5)

Sec. 5½-4. - Definitions.

(a) *Usage.*

- (1) For the purposes of this chapter, certain words, terms, numbers, and abbreviations used herein shall be used, interpreted and defined as set forth in this section.
- (2) Unless specifically defined in this section, words or phrases used in this chapter shall be interpreted to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this chapter its most reasonable application.
- (3) Words used in the present tense include the future tense; words used in the singular number include the plural, and the plural number includes the singular; the word "shall" is always mandatory; and the word "herein" means "in this chapter."

(b) *Words and terms defined.*

Administrator shall mean the secretary of the state department of natural resources.

Chenier shall mean sandy ridges that formed thousands of years ago through a combination of silt deposits from shifting river deltas and water currents from the Gulf of Mexico that carried and trapped these deposits, isolating strips of sandy beaches. Over time, these isolated or "stranded" beaches continued to build up and become ridges.

Coastal use guidelines means those rules developed pursuant to section 213.8(B) of Act 361 of 1978, as amended.

Coastal use permit shall mean the permits required by section 213.11 of Act 361 and shall not mean or refer to, and shall be in addition to, any other permit or approval required or established pursuant to any other constitutional provision or statute.

Coastal waters shall mean bays, lakes, inlets, estuaries, rivers, bayous, and other bodies of water within the boundaries of the coastal zone which have measurable seawater content (under normal weather conditions over a period of years).

Coastal zone shall mean the coastal waters and adjacent shorelands within the boundaries of the coastal zone established in section 213.4 of Act 361, which are strongly influenced by each other, and in proximity of the shorelines and uses of which have a direct and significant impact on coastal waters.

Exempted use shall mean any use specifically listed in this chapter as a use not requiring a coastal use permit.

Existing as applied to any use, structure, or development, includes the words "existing on the effective date of this article."

Fastlands are lands surrounded by publicly-owned, maintained, or otherwise valid existing levees, or natural formations, as of the effective date of Act 361 or as may be lawfully constructed in the future; which levees or natural formations would normally prevent activities, not to include the pumping of water for drainage purposes, within the surrounding area from having direct and significant impacts on coastal waters.

Local government shall mean the governmental body having general jurisdiction and operations at the parish level [the police jury].

Person shall mean any individual, partnership, association, trust, corporation, public agency or authority, or state or local government body.

Public hearing, wherever required in this chapter, shall be a hearing announced to the public at least thirty (30) days in advance, and at which all interested persons shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments orally or in writing. At the time of the announcement of the public hearing all materials pertinent to the hearing, including documents, studies, and other data in the possession of the party calling the hearing, must be made available to the public for review and study. As similar materials are subsequently developed, they shall be made available to the public as they become available to the party which conducted the hearing.

Secretary shall mean the secretary of the department of natural resources.

Use shall mean any use or activity within the coastal zone which has a direct and significant impact on coastal waters.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, §§ 2.1, 2.2; Ord. of 9-10-12)

Sec. 5½-5. - Coastal zone boundary.

The Cameron Parish coastal zone boundary begins at the Louisiana-Texas border following the Calcasieu-Cameron Parish line eastward to the Intracoastal Waterway, which is followed eastwardly to the Vermilion Parish line.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 2.3)

Sec. 5½-6. - Area normally subject to permitting.

In Cameron Parish, the entire coastal zone will be subject to coastal use permitting.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 2.4)

Sec. 5½-7. - Types of uses subject to permitting.

Uses of the coastal zone subject to the coastal use permitting program shall be of two (2) types:

- (1) *Uses of state concern:* Those uses which directly and significantly affect coastal waters and which are in need of coastal management and which have impacts of greater than local significance or which significantly affect interests of regional, state, or national concern. Uses of state concern shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Any dredge or fill activity which intersects with more than one water body;
 - b. Projects involving use of state-owned lands or water bottoms;
 - c. State publicly-funded projects;
 - d. National interest projects;
 - e. Projects occurring in more than one parish;
 - f. All mineral activities, including exploration for, and production of, oil, gas, and other minerals, all dredge and fill uses associated therewith, and all other associated uses;
 - g. All pipelines for the gathering, transportation, or transmission of oil, gas, and other minerals;
 - h. Energy facility siting and development; and
 - i. Uses of local concern which may significantly affect interests of regional, state, or national concern.
- (2) *Uses of local concern:* Those uses which directly and significantly affect coastal waters and are in need of coastal management, but are not uses of state concern, and which should be regulated by the parish police jury. Uses of local concern shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Privately-funded projects which are not uses of state concern;
 - b. Publicly-funded projects which are not uses of state concern;

- c. Maintenance of uses of local concern;
- d. Jetties or breakwaters;
- e. Dredge or fill projects not intersecting more than one water body;
- f. Bulkheads;
- g. Piers;
- h. Camps and cattlewalks;
- i. Maintenance dredging;
- j. Private water control structures or less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) in cost;
and
- k. Uses on cheniers, salt domes, or similar land forms.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 2.5)

Sec. 5½-8. - Uses of greater than local benefit.

- (a) No management policy of the Cameron Parish coastal resources program shall be so restrictive as to exclude uses of greater than local benefit.
- (b) Uses of state interest are found in section 5½-7.
- (c) Uses of regional benefit include:
 - (1) Interstate natural gas transmission pipelines;
 - (2) Major state or federal transportation facilities such as highways and expressways;
 - (3) Major state or federal transportation facilities such as deep-water ports and navigation projects;
 - (4) Public wildlife and fisheries management projects;
 - (5) Public utility or cooperative energy generating plants; and
 - (6) State parks and beaches and other state-owned recreational facilities.

Each permit application will be reviewed to determine whether it is of local, regional, state or federal interest.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 2.6)

Sec. 5½-9. - Exempted uses.

- (a) The following activities normally do not have direct and significant impacts on coastal waters; hence, a coastal use permit is not required, except as set forth in the following section:
 - (1) Agricultural, forestry, and agriculture activities on lands consistently used in the past for such activities;

- (2) Hunting, fishing, trapping, and the preservation of scenic, historic, and scientific areas and wildlife preserves;
 - (3) Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures including emergency repairs of damage caused by accident, by fire, or the elements;
 - (4) Construction of single-family residences or camps used for noncommercial, nonprofit purposes;
 - (5) Construction and modification of navigational aids such as channel markers and anchor buoys; and
 - (6) Activities which do not have a direct and significant impact on coastal waters.
- (b) Activities occurring wholly on lands five (5) feet or more above sea level or within fastlands do not normally have a direct and significant impact on coastal waters. Consequently, a coastal use permit for such uses generally need not be applied for.
- (c) However, if a proposed activity exempted from permitting in subsection 5½-9(b), above, will result in discharges into coastal waters, or significantly change existing water flow into coastal waters, then the person proposing the activity shall notify the secretary and provide such information regarding the proposed activity as may be required by the secretary in deciding whether the activity is a use subject to a coastal permit.
- (d) The exception described in section 5½-9(b) shall not refer to activities occurring on cheniers, salt domes, barrier islands, beaches, and similar isolated, raised land forms in the coastal zone. It does refer to natural ridges and levees.
- (e) The construction of a residence or camp shall not require a coastal use permit provided that:
- (1) The terms shall refer solely to structures used for non-commercial and nonprofit purposes, and which are commonly referred to as "single-family" and not multiple-family dwellings; and
 - (2) The terms shall refer solely to construction of one such structure by or for the owner of the land for the owner's use and not to practices involving the building of more than one such structure as in subdividing, tracting development, speculative building, or recreational community development.
- (f) The exemption shall apply only to the construction of the structure and appurtenances such as septic fields, outbuildings, walkways, gazebos, small wharves, landings, boathouses, private driveways, and similar works; but not to any bulkheading or any dredging or filling activity except for small amounts of fill necessary for the structure itself, and for the installation and maintenance of septic or sewerage facilities.
- (g) The construction and modification of navigational aids shall not require a coastal use permit.
- (h)

The term shall include channel markers, buoys, marker piles, dolphins, piling, pile cluster, etc.; provided that the exemption does not apply to associated dredge or fill uses or the construction of mooring structures, advertising signs, platforms, or similar structures associated with such facilities. All navigational aides constructed pursuant to this section shall conform to United States Coast Guard standards and requirements.

- (i) Agricultural, forestry, and aquacultural activities on lands consistently used in the past for such activities shall not require a coastal use permit provided that:
 - (1) The activity is located on lands or in waters which have been used on an ongoing basis for such purposes, consistent with normal practices, prior to the effective date of the Act;
 - (2) The activity is consistent with good management practices for the particular agricultural, forestry, or aquacultural use to which the land has been put;
 - (3) The activity is conducted or carried out in such a manner as to minimize adverse impacts on the coastal water environment; and
 - (4) The activity is not intended to, or will it result in, changing the type of agricultural, forestry, or aquacultural use to which the land has been consistently used for in the past.
- (j) Included in the exception are normal agricultural, forestry, and aquacultural activities such as plowing; seeding; grazing; cultivating; insect control; fence building and repair; thinning; harvesting for the production of food, fiber, and forest products; maintenance and drainage of existing farm, stock, or fish ponds; digging of small drainage ditches; or maintenance of existing drainage ditches and farm or forest roads carried out in accordance with good management practices.
- (k) No use or activity shall require a coastal use permit if:
 - (1) The use or activity was lawfully commenced or established prior to the implementation of the coastal use permit process; or
 - (2) The administrator determines that it does not have a direct or significant impact.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 2.7)

Sec. 5½-10. - General permits.

- (a) The following activities will qualify for a general permit and will exempt the applicant from the public notice requirement.

(1) GP-8	Christmas tree projects
(2) GP-11	Mitigation projects for permitted projects

(3) GP-13	Maintenance dredging of existing canals used for management of installation and maintenance of utility facilities
(4) GP-15	Maintenance dredging of existing navigation channels and slips
(5) GP-17	Small dredge restoration operations
(6) GP-18	For use with private residences: driveways, storage buildings, etc. dredge for boatslips, bulkheads
(7) GP-23	Maintenance of existing trenasses

(b) Reference is made to the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program Appendix CL "Rules and Procedures for Coastal Use Permits" Part V General Permits.

(Ord. of 3-4-02)

Sec. 5½-11. - Critical landforms.

- (a) Cheniers, natural ridges and similar landforms shall be classified as critical landforms.
- (b) Cheniers and natural ridges of Cameron Parish are unique geological features that are critical components of the ecology of coastal Louisiana; they serve as critical wildlife habitat and offer substantial protection against coastal storm surge and flooding.
- (c) Surface alterations which have high adverse impacts on critical landforms shall be prohibited to the maximum extent practical unless at the discretion of the police jury, the applicant can substantiate an overriding reason for the activity; which overriding reason shall include but is not limited to environmental remediation plans which include restoring property to its original condition. Applicants for permits may be required to provide additional materials that may include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) Engineering and scientific reports detailing the extent to which the proposed use will or will not impact the structural integrity of the landform.
 - (2) Alternative sites for the project.
 - (3) Mitigation measures that will be used to protect the environment.
- (d) The following uses shall require a strict local coastal program review including but not limited to:
 - (1) Open pit mining commercial or otherwise.
 - (2) Large scale excavations that are not incidental to environmental remediation plans which include restoring property to its original condition.

- (3) Timber harvesting.
- (4) Any other uses that would severely degrade the structural integrity of these valuable coastal landforms.
- (e) The following uses on cheniers and natural ridges shall be allowed and will not require a permit.
 - (1) Tilling of land for vegetables gardens and melon patches.
 - (2) Tilling of land for agriculture purposes.
 - (3) Mowing of land for residential or agricultural purposes.
 - (4) Grading and leveling of residential property.
- (f) Uses on cheniers or natural ridges do not qualify for exemption or NDSI even if the proposed activity is located above the five-foot contour.

(Ord.of 9-10-12)

Secs. 5½-12—5½-20. - Reserved.

ARTICLE II. - PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Footnotes:

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Cross reference— *Area subject to permitting, § 5½-6; types of uses subject to permitting, § 5½-7; exempted uses, § 5½-9; general coastal use permits, § 5½-62.*

Sec. 5½-21. - Coastal use permit required.

Any person seeking to commence any use not specifically exempted by section 5½-9 of this article, within Cameron Parish coastal zone must first obtain a coastal use permit from the Cameron Parish Police Jury.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.4)

Sec. 5½-22. - Permit procedure—Formal requirements.

- (a) All applications shall be made on the form(s) prescribed by the secretary.
- (b) All applications shall be submitted to the permit agent in the appropriate department of the office of the police jury.
- (c) All applications of local concern shall be accompanied by:
 - (1) The application fee, which for a coastal zone permit shall be a flat fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00).

Estimated Cost	Permit Fee
----------------	------------

\$0—\$5,000.00	\$5.00
Over \$5,000.00	1% of estimated cost not to exceed \$100.00

(2) All information currently required by the coastal management section of the department of natural resources, including:

- a. Maps showing the actual location, size, and dimensions of the real property to be used;
- b. Plans showing the exact location, size, and height of the buildings or structures to be developed;
- c. A list of all applications, approvals, and/or denials already made concerning the development to/by federal, state, or local agencies; and
- d. If the development involves dredging, a description of:
 1. The type, composition, and quantity of material to be dredged;
 2. The method of dredging; and
 3. The site of the plans for the disposal of the dredged material.

(d) The parish shall submit to the administrator and make available to the public an annual report within thirty (30) days of the close of the calendar year. This report shall contain a list of the number, type (local or state concern), habitat (marsh type, etc.), frequency (number of applications per month), the decision on all permit applications, and any local program changes which have been previously reviewed and approved by CMD/DNR.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.5; Ord. of 9-6-05)

Sec. 5½-23. - Same—Administrative action.

- (a) When an application for a permit is received, the permit agent shall immediately assign it a number for identification, acknowledge receipt thereof, and advise the applicant of the number assigned to it.
- (b) Application processing will begin when an application that is apparently complete is accepted by the agent.
- (c) Within two (2) working days of receipt of a complete application, a copy of the application and all attachments and the decision as to whether the use is one of state or local concern shall be sent to the administrator or the permit agent, depending upon the location of submittal.
- (d) If the proposed activity is determined by the administrator to be of local concern, the permit agent shall present the coastal use permit application to the police jury for approval or denial.

- (e) Public notice of applications for coastal use permits shall be given by:
 - (1) Mailing a brief description of the application, along with a statement indicating where a copy of the application may be inspected, [to] any person who has filed a request to be notified of such permit applications and to all affected governmental bodies;
 - (2) By posting or causing to be posted a copy of the application at the location of the proposed site;
 - (3) By sending notice of the application to the media in Cameron Parish; and
 - (4) By causing the publication of notice of the application in the official journal of the parish.
- (f) Public notice of all applications for coastal use permits of local concern will be issued within ten (10) days of filing of application.
- (g) The notice shall set forth that any comments on the application shall be submitted to the permitting body within twenty-five (25) days from the date of official journal publication of the notice.
- (h) A copy of the application will be sent to any person requesting it upon payment of a reasonable fee to cover costs of copying, handling, and mailing, except that information of a confidential or proprietary nature shall be withheld.
- (i) The police jury shall consider comments received in response to the public notice in its subsequent actions on the permit application. Comments received will be made a part of the official file on the application. If comments received relate to matters within the special expertise of another governmental body, the permitting body may seek advice of that agency. If necessary, the applicant will be given the opportunity to furnish his proposed resolution or rebuttal to all objections from government agencies and other substantive adverse comments before a final decision is made on the application.
- (j) The police jury shall send notice of approval or denial of permit within thirty (30) days of the giving of public notice, or within fifteen (15) days after the closing of the record of a public hearing, if held, whichever is later.
- (k) If the final decision is to issue a permit, the parish permit agent shall forward two (2) copies of the draft permit to the applicant for his signature, accepting the conditions of the permit, along with the finding on the application. The applicant will return both signed copies to the parish permit agent for signature and dating by the parish police jury.
- (l) If the final decision is to deny said permit, the permit agent shall send the applicant a statement setting forth the reason(s) for denial.
- (m) The parish permit agent will issue a monthly list of permits issued or denied during the previous month. This list will be distributed to all persons who received the public notices.

Sec. 5½-24. - Public hearings on permit applications.

- (a) A public hearing may be held in connection with the consideration of an application for a new permit and when it is proposed that an existing permit be modified or revoked.
- (b) Any person may request in writing within the comment period specified in the public notice that a public hearing be held to consider material matters at issue in a permit application. Upon receipt of any such request, the police jury shall determine whether the issues raised are substantial and there is a valid public interest to be served by holding a public hearing.
- (c) Public hearing(s) may be appropriate when there is significant public opposition to a proposed use, legislative requests, requests from local governments or other local authorities, or controversial cases involving significant economic, social, or environmental issues. The police jury has the discretion to require hearings in any particular case. Failure to hold a hearing on an application may not be appealed.
- (d) If the determination is made by the police jury to hold a public hearing, the permit agent shall promptly notify the applicant, set a time and place for the hearing, and give public notice.
- (e) Public notice shall be given at least thirty (30) days in advance of any public hearing, except that in cases of public necessity a shorter time may be allowed.
- (f) Notice shall be sent to all persons regarding notices of public hearings, and published in the official journal of the parish.
- (g) The police jury will make a decision to grant, deny, or grant with modifications within fifteen (15) days of the public hearing.
- (h) Notification of the decision to grant, deny, or grant with modification shall conform to section 5½-21 [5½-23] of this chapter.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.7)

Sec. 5½-25. - Criteria for coastal use permit approval.

Coastal use permits of local concern will be approved by the police jury only after:

- (1) The permit's uses conform with goals, objectives, and policies contained on pages 165—244 of the Cameron Parish Coastal Resource Management Plan;
- (2) The permit's use conforms to the state guidelines and regulations, pursuant to the final environmental impact statement compiled by the Louisiana Coastal Resources Programs and Act 361; and
- (3) After a full and fair consideration of all information.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.8)

Sec. 5½-26. - Effect of local coastal program policies.

- (a) Local coastal program objectives, policies, and performance standards which directly or indirectly affect uses of state concern shall not be construed as being regulatory or binding on either the permit applicant or the coastal management division of the department of natural resources, but are for the purpose of submitting the parish environmental review comments to the state on applications for uses of state concern. Local policies which contain prohibitions, restrictions, or performance standards beyond the scope of the coastal use guidelines shall be considered as advisory by the parish, the coastal management division, and permit applicants (i.e., mandatory policies with "shalls" are modified such that "should" is the operative verb).
- (b) Parish comments to the coastal management division on proposed uses of state concern shall be based on the policies of the local coastal program and may recommend specific project alternatives and conditions. The coastal management division's consideration of parish recommendations shall be based on the conformance of the recommendation with the coastal use guidelines. Recommendations which reflect further detailing of the coastal use guidelines as they apply to the parish shall be given substantial consideration by the coastal management division, with the objective of maximizing conformances with the approved local coastal program. Recommendations which are not in conformance with the coastal use guidelines shall not be considered by the coastal management division.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.9)

Sec. 5½-27. - Term of permit; renewal.

- (a) Permit shall be effective for five (5) years from date of issuance.
 - (1) Applicant must re-apply for permit if construction is not started within the first three (3) years from date of permit issuance.
- (b) A coastal use permit may be renewed if the police jury is satisfied that substantial progress has been made on said project or that the permittee has been precluded from acting by non-self-induced litigation, material shortages, labor problems or other events beyond the permittee's control.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.10; Ord. of 8-1-05)

Sec. 5½-28. - Conditions of permit.

- (a) By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to:
 - (1) Carry out or perform the use in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the police jury;
 - (2) Comply with any permit conditions imposed by the police jury;

- (3) Adjust, alter, or remove any structure or other physical evidence of the permitted use if, in the opinion of the police jury, it proves to be beyond the scope of the use as approved or is abandoned;
- (4) Provide, if required by the police jury, an acceptable surety bond in an appropriate amount to ensure adjustment, alteration, or removal should the permitting body determine it necessary;
- (5) Hold and save the State of Louisiana, the local government, the department, and their officers and employees harmless from any damage to persons or property which might result from the work, activity, or structure permitted; and
- (6) Certify that any permitted construction has been completed in an acceptable and satisfactory manner and in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the permitting body. The police jury may, when appropriate, require such certification be given by a registered professional engineer.

- (b) The police jury shall place such other conditions on the permit as are appropriate to ensure compliance with the coastal management program.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.11)

Sec. 5½-29. - Appeals.

- (a) This section shall govern the reconsideration and/or judicial review of actions of the police jury, including coastal use permit approval decisions and determinations of local concern under R.S. 49:214.30(C)(1) and determinations of direct and significant impact under R.S. 49:214.34.
- (b) A decision shall be subject to reconsideration by the police jury if a petition for reconsideration is filed in writing with the police jury within ten days following publishing of the police jury minutes in which the decision was rendered. The grounds for reconsideration shall be either that:
 - (1) The decision is clearly contrary to the law or the evidence before the police jury;
 - (2) The petitioner has discovered, since the decision, evidence important to the issues which he could not, with due diligence, have presented to the police jury prior to the decision;
 - (3) There is a showing that issues not previously considered, through no fault of the petitioner, ought to be examined in order to properly dispose of the matter; or
 - (4) There exist other good grounds for further consideration of the issues and the evidence in the public interest.
- (c) The petition for reconsideration shall set forth the grounds which justify such action. Nothing in the section shall prevent the reopening or reconsideration of a decision in accordance with other applicable statutory provisions or at any time on the grounds of fraud, perjured testimony or fictitious evidence. The reconsideration shall be limited to those grounds upon which it was granted, and the police jury may adopt regulations for the orderly consideration and disposition of reconsideration petitions. The police jury shall render a decision upon the reconsideration

petition within fifteen (15) days of its receipt. If a petition for reconsideration is timely filed, the period within which judicial review must be sought shall run from the final disposition of such petition. The police jury, in the interest of justice, may grant a stay of a decision on a coastal use permit until the final disposition of a petition for reconsideration.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.12; Ord. of 9-1-98)

Sec. 5½-30. - Modifications.

- (a) The terms and conditions of a permit may be modified to allow changes in the permitted use, in the plans and specifications of that use, in the methods by which the use is being implemented, or to assure that the permitted use will be in conformity with the coastal management program. Changes which would significantly increase the scope of a permitted activity shall be processed as new applications for permits, not as modifications.
- (b) A permit may be modified upon request of the permittee if mutual agreement between the permittee and the police jury can be reached on a modification. If mutual agreement between the permittee and the police jury cannot be reached, a permittee's request for a modification shall be considered denied.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.13)

Sec. 5½-31. - Monitoring.

The permit agent's office will be responsible for monitoring progress of all permitted uses and compliance with regulations accompanying permit approval. This will include on-site inspections to verify compliance, and follow-up reports for each permitted project.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.14)

Sec. 5½-32. - Emergency permits.

The police jury may allow emergency permits to be granted where the public safety is endangered or in situations requiring immediate action to protect the general welfare of Cameron's citizens. This action shall include consultation with the state department of natural resources and will be adhered to only in those cases which cannot be remedied by normal permit process.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.15)

Sec. 5½-33. - Suspensions.

- (a) The police jury may suspend a permit upon finding that:
 - (1) The permittee has failed or refuses to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit or any modifications thereof;

- (2) The permittee has submitted false or incomplete information in his application or otherwise;
or
 - (3) The permittee has failed or refused to comply with any lawful order or request of the police jury or the permit agent.
- (b) The police jury shall notify the permittee in writing that the permit has been suspended and the reasons therefor, and order the permittee to cease immediately all previously authorized activities. The notice shall also advise the permittee that he will be given, upon request made within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice, an opportunity to respond to the reasons given for the suspension.
- (c) After consideration of the permittee's response, or if none has been received within a thirty-day period after issuance of notice, the police jury shall take action to reinstate, modify, or revoke the permit and shall notify the permittee of the action taken.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.16)

Sec. 5½-34. - Revocation.

If, after compliance with the suspension procedures in section 5½-33, above, the police jury determines that revocation or modification of the permit is warranted, written notice of the revocation or modification shall be given to the permittee.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.17)

Sec. 5½-35. - Reserved.

Editor's note— An Ord. of Sept. 1, 1998 repealed former section 5½-35 in its entirety which pertained to enforcement and derived from an Ord. of March 4, 1987, § 3.18)

Sec. 5½-36. - Mitigation.

- (a) Appropriate mitigation shall be required for unavoidable adverse impacts. The intent of the required mitigation is that the functions and values of the wetland lost due to project implementation will be replaced. Mitigation may include, but is not limited to, the actual performance of work (i.e., the replacement or creation of wetland), or land/monetary donations to an approved fund or organization for the creation, restoration or enhancement of wetlands.
- (b) All mitigation assigned by the police jury, is subject to approval from the Louisiana State Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Management Section.
 - (1) Mitigation will be decided using the following priority criteria:
 - a. *On-site mitigation.* Mitigation will be done where the damage occurs.
 - b.

On landowner property. Mitigation will be done on landowner's property where damage occurs.

c. *River basin.* Mitigation will be done in the river basin where damage occurs.

d. *Parish.* Mitigation will be done in the parish that the damage occurs.

(2) Mitigation will be required by the police jury, if there is a direct and significant wetland impact for the following reasons:

a. Privately-funded projects which are not uses of state concern;

b. Publicly-funded projects which are not uses of state concern;

c. Maintenance of uses of local concern;

d. Jetties or breakwaters;

e. Dredge or fill projects not intersecting more than one water body;

f. Bulkheads;

g. Piers;

h. Camps and cattlewalks;

i. Maintenance dredging;

j. Private water control structures or less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) in cost;

k. Uses on cheniers, salt domes, or similar land forms;

l. U.S. Corps of Engineers recommendation; and

m. An approved parish mitigation plan.

(Ord. of 9-1-98)

Sec. 5½-37. - Exempt mitigation uses.

Refer to section 5½-9 under Article I.

(Ord. of 9-1-98)

Sec. 5½-38. - Wetland value assessment methodology.

The Wetland Value Assessment, (WVA), Methodology, used by the Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, (CWPPRA), will be used to figure acreage impacts. Monetary contributions will be figured using the tables provided in L.A.C. Part 1, Title 43, Chapter 7, 724 of the State Mitigation Regulations.

(Ord. of 9-1-98)

Secs. 5½-39—5½-44. - Reserved.

ARTICLE III. - ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Sec. 5½-45. - Enforcement.

If the permittee fails to comply with a cease and desist order or the suspension or revocation of a permit, the police jury shall seek appropriate civil and criminal relief as provided by Louisiana Revised Statutes, Section 49:214.36.

(Ord. of 9-1-98)

Sec. 5½-46. - Designation and powers of the police jury.

The police jury, in conjunction with the office of the parish administrator (permit agent) shall exercise jurisdiction within the coastal zone consistently with the chapter. The powers and responsibilities of the police jury shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) To maintain and hold open for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this chapter.
- (2) To issue, deny, or modify permits.
- (3) To adopt any rules and regulations which are consistent with the general law and which it finds reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.
- (4) To conduct any investigation it deems necessary to comply with the purposes of this chapter.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.1)

Sec. 5½-47. - Intergovernmental agreements.

The police jury is the only governmental body in Cameron Parish; therefore, no intergovernmental agreements exist, except oral understanding between the police jury and its advisory boards such as the planning commission, drainage board, etc.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.2)

Sec. 5½-48. - Multi-parish considerations.

- (a) All plans concerning Cameron Parish, whether regional, state, or federal, shall be reviewed by the permitting agent's office.
- (b) Should it become necessary, the permitting agent and the police jury shall coordinate meetings with other parish or parishes which are involved in multi-parish plans along with Cameron. The parish will also coordinate meetings with appropriate state and federal agencies as needed.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.3)

Sec. 5½-49. - Penalty for violations.

Violation or failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter or the terms or conditions of any coastal use permit shall be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or ninety (90) days imprisonment, or both. Each day for which the violation continues shall constitute a separate penalty.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 3.19)

Secs. 5½-50—5½-60. - Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. - NONCONFORMING USE AND MAINTENANCE

Sec. 5½-61. - Definition and classification.

- (a) Individual specific uses legally commenced or established prior to the effective date of the coastal use permit program shall not require a coastal use permit.
- (b) Normal repairs and the rehabilitation, replacement, or maintenance of existing structures shall not require a coastal use permit, provided that:
 - (1) The structure or work was lawfully in existence, currently serviceable, and in active use during the year preceding the repair, replacement, or maintenance;
 - (2) The repair or maintenance does not result in an encroachment into a wetland area greater than that of the previous structure or work;
 - (3) The repair or maintenance does not involve dredge or fill activities; and
 - (4) The repair or maintenance does not result in a structure or facility that is significantly different in magnitude or function from the original.
- (c) This exemption shall not apply to the repair or maintenance of any structure or facility built or maintained in violation of the coastal management program.
- (d) Coastal use permits will normally authorize periodic maintenance, including maintenance dredging. All maintenance activities authorized by coastal use permit shall be conducted pursuant to the conditions established for that permit. Where maintenance is performed which is not described in an applicable coastal permit, it shall conform to this section.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 4.1)

Sec. 5½-62. - General coastal use permits.

General coastal use permits may be issued by the police jury, subject to approval by the secretary. Such a permit is an authorization to prospective users to perform specific uses within a prescribed area without the necessity for a complete independent review of each proposed use. The condition for allowing a general permit shall be a situation in which any user of the coastal zone submits an application to the permit agent to carry out uses of local concern, which are allowed in the coastal zone. Therefore, a public hearing will not be necessary and the procedure will involve submission of an application for a general permit constituting several proposed uses of local concern within a specific area which are individually allowed by permit. The permitting agent then reviews the permit and makes recommendation to the police jury and the coastal management section of the state department of natural resources. Upon approval by the secretary, the police jury shall make a determination on the general permit. The proposed actions shall be monitored monthly to ensure compliance with the local ordinance.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 4.2)

Sec. 5½-63. - Ordinance adoption.

The police jury has two (2) general types of ordinances: (1) proclamation or resolution type ordinances; and (2) rules and procedures type ordinances which require a public hearing prior to adoption. The Cameron Parish coastal resources program will be submitted to the police jury prior to the public hearing. They will review the plan, take comments at the public hearing (according to section 5½-24 of this chapter), and adopt the program after all comments have been received and final determinations are made.

(Ord. of 3-4-87, § 4.3)

Appendix F



2023

Louisiana's Comprehensive **Master Plan** for a Sustainable Coast

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4TH EDITION

State of Louisiana
The Honorable John Bel Edwards

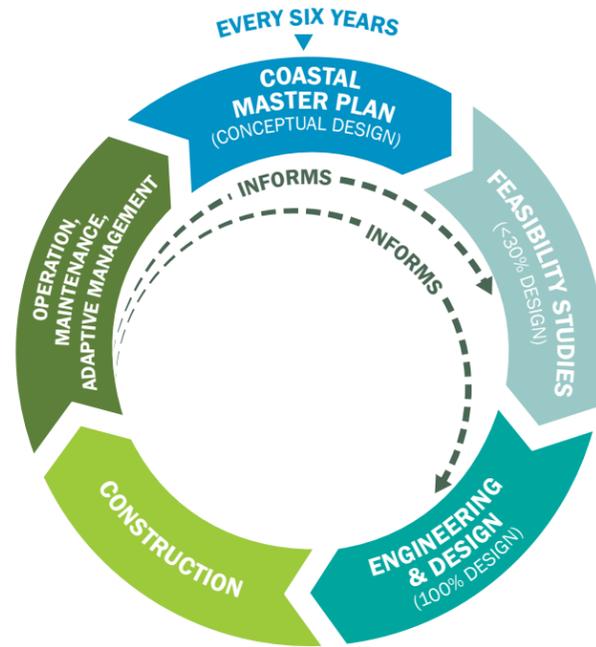


A changing coast

The 2023 Coastal Master Plan aims to preserve coastal Louisiana's rich culture, ecosystems, and natural resources threatened by ongoing land loss and flood risk. It is part of a larger, ongoing effort led by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) to adapt Louisiana's coast in the face of future environmental change.

The 2023 Coastal Master Plan is the fourth plan developed by the state to achieve comprehensive coastal restoration and risk reduction goals. Once approved by the Louisiana Legislature, this plan directs the state's coastal activities. It guides billions of dollars of investment in the design, implementation, and operation of large-scale restoration and risk reduction projects.

These projects represent a commitment to Louisianans, to the coast's unique cultural heritage, and to maintaining a productive working coast. It further aims to empower people and communities to make informed decisions by illustrating how they may experience coastal change. Building this resilient coast is a much larger effort than the plan itself. It depends on the decisions of individuals, communities, local governments, and businesses, as well as fellow state and federal agencies.



A 6 YEAR CYCLE FOR A LIVING PLAN

Updating the plan every six years ensures that the latest science, data, and stakeholder considerations are incorporated to continuously improve the master plan's impact and make the case for additional funding.

PLAN GOALS



LAND LOSS REDUCTION

Candidate restoration projects are evaluated based upon how much land they create and maintain over 50 years compared to a future without the master plan.



STORM SURGE RISK REDUCTION

Candidate risk reduction projects are evaluated based on how well they reduce expected annual damage by storm surge-based flooding compared to a future without the master plan.

PLAN OBJECTIVES



FLOOD PROTECTION



NATURAL PROCESSES



COASTAL HABITATS



CULTURAL RESOURCES

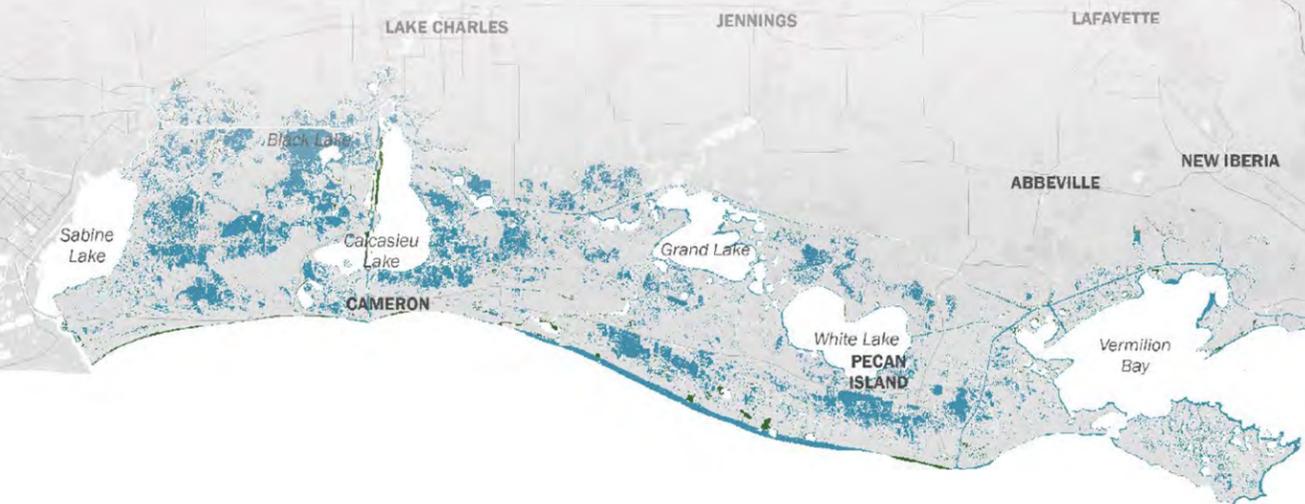


WORKING COAST



Image: Lake Saint Catherine, 2021 (CPRA)

Why do we need a plan?



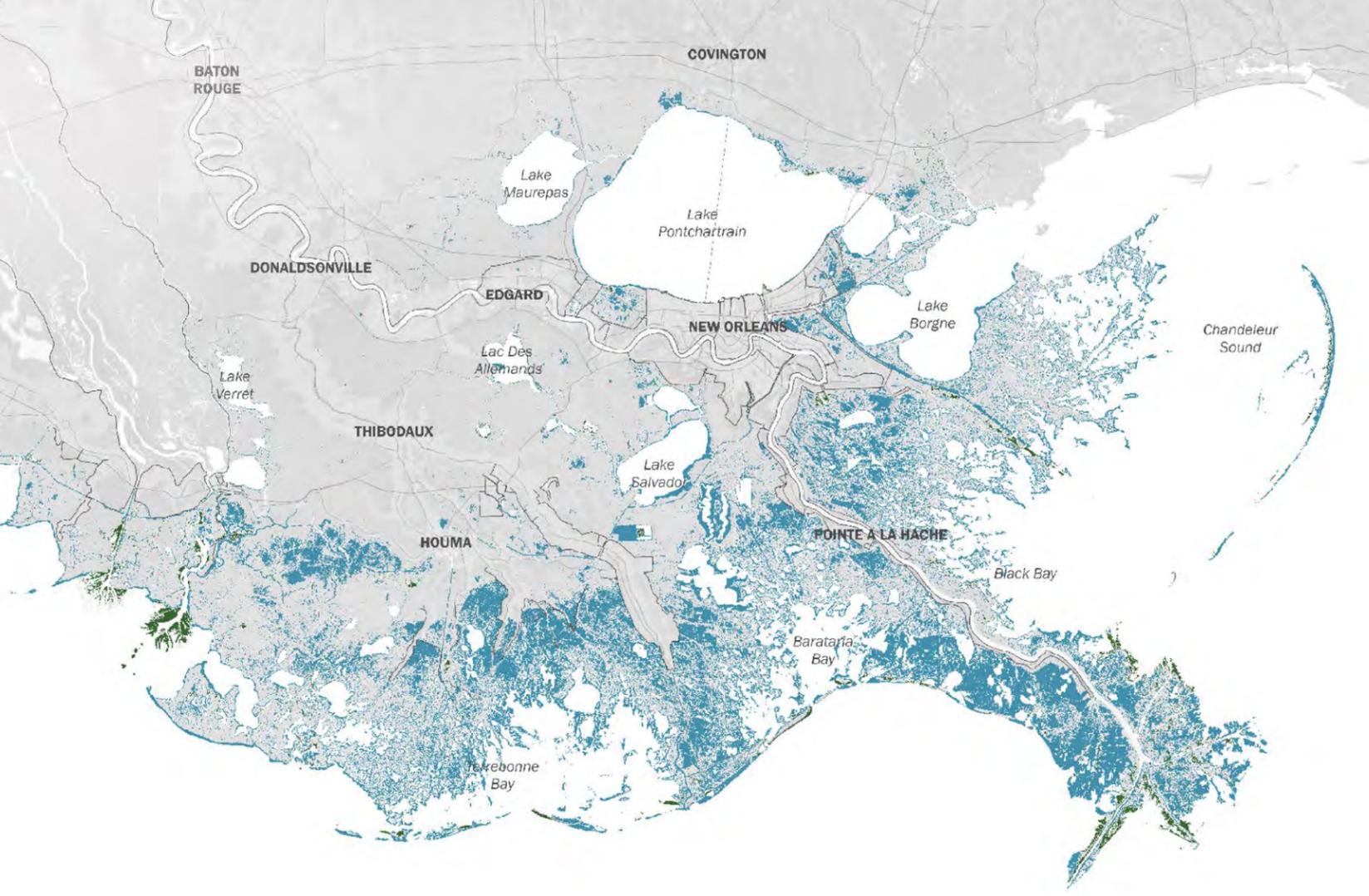
ECOSYSTEMS AT RISK
Wetlands ecosystem services, such as wave attenuation, that are at risk of being lost as sea level rise continues.

WIDE-RANGING IMPACTS
Natural resources and the built environment face increased challenges from coastal change.

COMMUNITIES AT RISK
Communities are at risk of storm surge-based flooding and damages from increasingly strong hurricanes and storms.



Figure: By the Numbers, Future Without Action.



Louisiana is facing a land loss crisis. Over the past century, the state has experienced massive changes to its landscape and the environment that already pose significant challenges to the lives and livelihoods of many Louisianans.

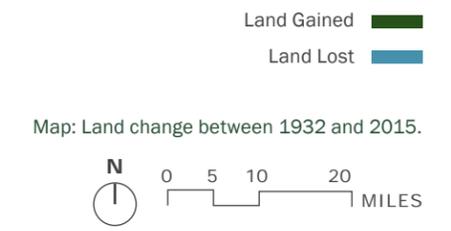
As shown in the map above, more than 2,000 square miles of Louisiana's coast, and the benefits they provide, have been lost since 1932. Natural processes – such as hurricanes, erosion, subsidence, and sea level rise – as well as human-made challenges – like the cutting of canals, oil spills, and building levees on the Mississippi River – make the coast more vulnerable to land loss.

These issues are exacerbated by the impacts of climate change. Climate change contributes to increasing rates of sea level rise and more intense storms. These impacts may include increased flooding in coastal communities (including more regular high tide flooding), drainage challenges as water levels rise, and the degradation of previously vibrant wetlands.

If we do nothing more to prevent this loss, large areas of coastal wetlands will disappear, communities will be more exposed to flooding, livelihoods will be further impacted, and the coast will be irreversibly harmed.

>>> **Chapter 3: Predict** provides additional details on how future coastal conditions are projected in a future without the master plan.

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Map: Land change between 1932 and 2015.

What's at stake?

Much of Louisiana's rich ecology, economy, and culture that depends on the coast is threatened by ongoing land loss and flood risk. Maintaining a healthy and productive coast is of critical importance. The master plan presents a vision that aims to protect, preserve, and strengthen all three of these key components.

A trip to coastal Louisiana makes its value clear. It boasts vast coastal wetlands filled with Spanish moss-draped cypress trees and hundreds of species of birds and other wildlife. These rich ecosystems are home to diverse groups of people and their unique cultures. Their livelihoods are tied to the Louisiana coast – fishing, hunting, and working in industry. Louisiana's working coast dominates key sectors of the nation's economy and generates significant economic activity for the state.

OUR HOMES

Over 2.1 million people who call this coast home could be at risk of future flooding. The master plan approaches damage evaluation as "a home is a home" with metrics that look beyond solely economic value.

The landscape is for more than just making a living. Recreational fishing, hunting, birding, and boating in coastal Louisiana are unparalleled. Locals and people from all around the world come to enjoy the beautiful and bountiful landscapes.

These experiences, skills, and enjoyments have been passed down for generations. Implementing the 2023 Coastal Master Plan is critical to creating a vibrant coast for generations to come. Although the outlook may appear bleak, there is time for residents of these communities to plan for the future.



Image: New Orleans (SCAPE)



Image: Pointe-aux-Chênes, 2020 (Louisiana Sea Grant College Program)

OUR JOBS

Much of Louisiana's economy depends on the well-being of the coast. It is critical for fishing, hunting, shipping, agriculture, and industry. For people seeking to buy property or open a new business, the risk of flooding and cost of flood insurance can deter otherwise promising opportunities.



Image: Rice Farming in Central Coast (Burt Tietje)



Image: Pogie Boats near Venice (Louisiana Sea Grant College Program)

OUR CULTURE

This coast is home to diverse groups of people with their own ties to the landscape. Traditions old and new show a deep appreciation for the coast and a recognition that its value goes beyond utility. Coastal landscapes are deeply entwined in the cultural identity of South Louisianans.

Image: Traditional Mardi Gras Celebration in Mamou, Louisiana, 2016 (CPRA)

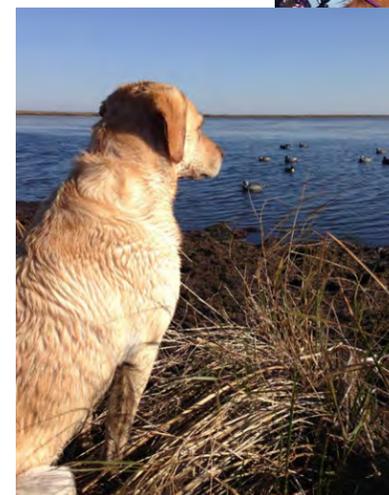
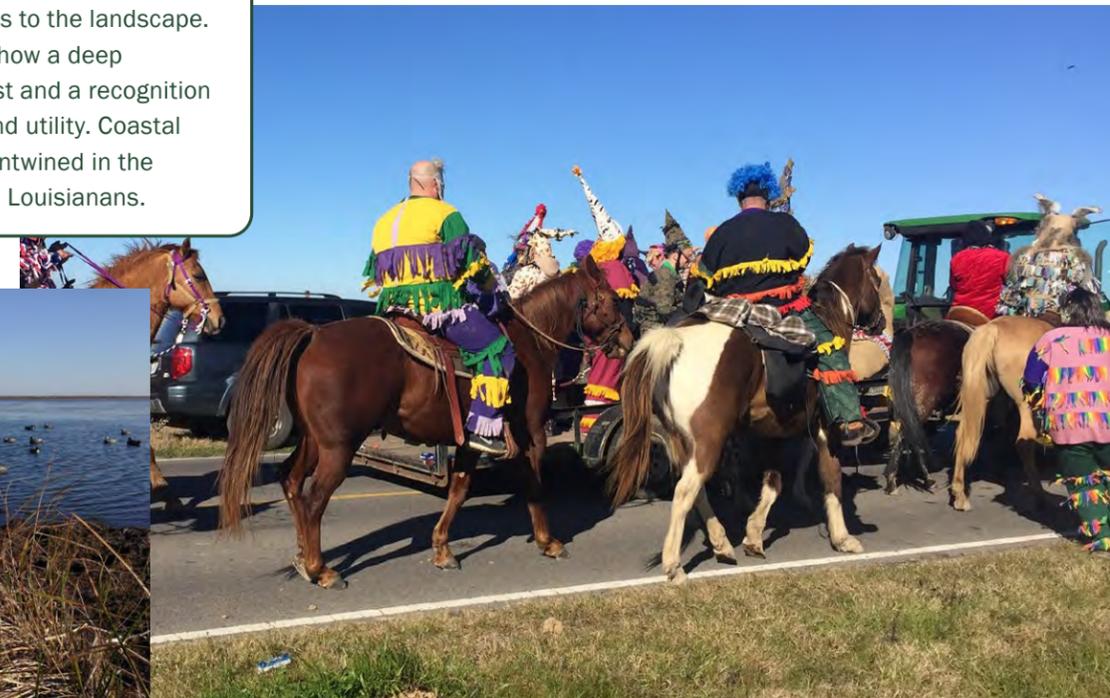


Image: Dog during waterfowl hunt in Delacroix, Louisiana (CPRA)

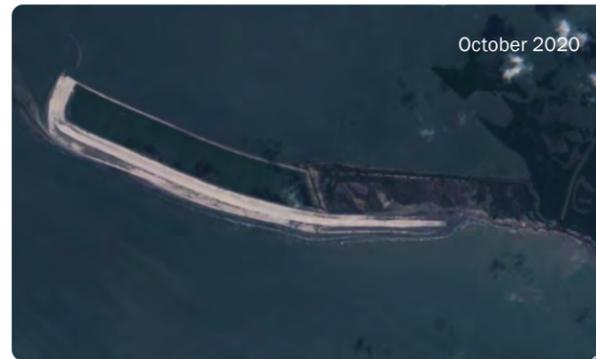
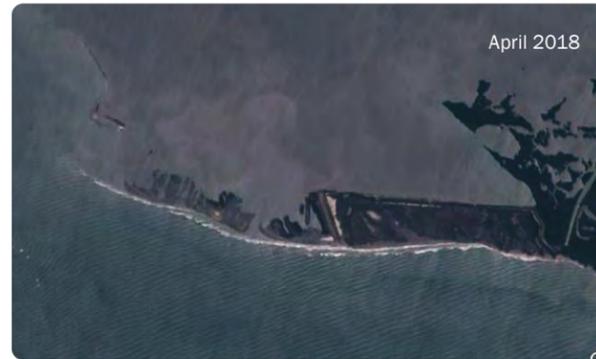
What has been done so far?

CPRA is an implementation agency that does not just plan projects but builds them. For decades, the state and CPRA partners have moved projects forward from conception to construction. Since 2007, CPRA has secured \$21.4 billion for coastal restoration and risk reduction efforts and has completed more than 150 projects. Louisiana is committed to mobilizing dollars quickly and efficiently through the master plan process to implement projects as soon as funds become available.

The projects highlighted here offer glimpses into the master plan's ambitious and comprehensive approach to coastal protection and restoration.

Since 2007, these efforts have totaled:

- 55,807 acres benefited (87.2 square miles)
- 193 million cubic yards of sediment placed
- 369 miles of improved levees
- 71.6 miles of restored barrier islands



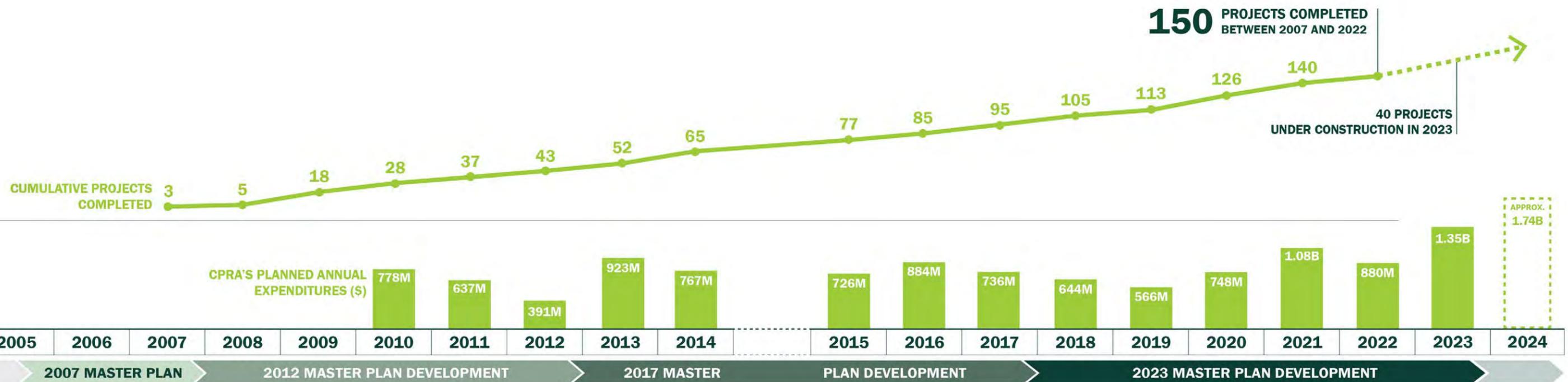
Terrebonne Basin Barrier Island Restoration



Greater New Orleans Hurricane Risk Reduction



Spanish Pass Ridge and Marsh Creation



How is the plan developed?

Every master plan cycle begins by reviewing feedback on the previous master plan process and incorporating recommended improvements. Selecting projects for inclusion in the master plan is a complex effort that is guided by real-world considerations, such as funding, resource constraints, and environmental change. It also considers how projects may interact with each other and their impact on different aspects of the coast. Ultimately, the projects included in the master plan represent a suite of solutions to address a variety of coastal issues Louisianaans face now and in the future.

CANDIDATE PROJECTS

Project concepts are solicited from the public and members of advisory groups to address key coastal concerns. Projects from previous master plans are also considered. All candidate projects are then modeled and evaluated for inclusion based on their performance across both environmental scenarios over 50 years.

EVALUATION

Model outputs are used to develop groups of projects for implementation that best achieve the state's goals, subject to budget and sediment constraints. Many combinations of projects are considered and through a "deliberation-with-analysis" approach, a final set of projects is selected to provide benefits coastwide.

>>> **Chapter 4: Evaluate** provides more information about how projects were selected for the 2023 Coastal Master Plan.

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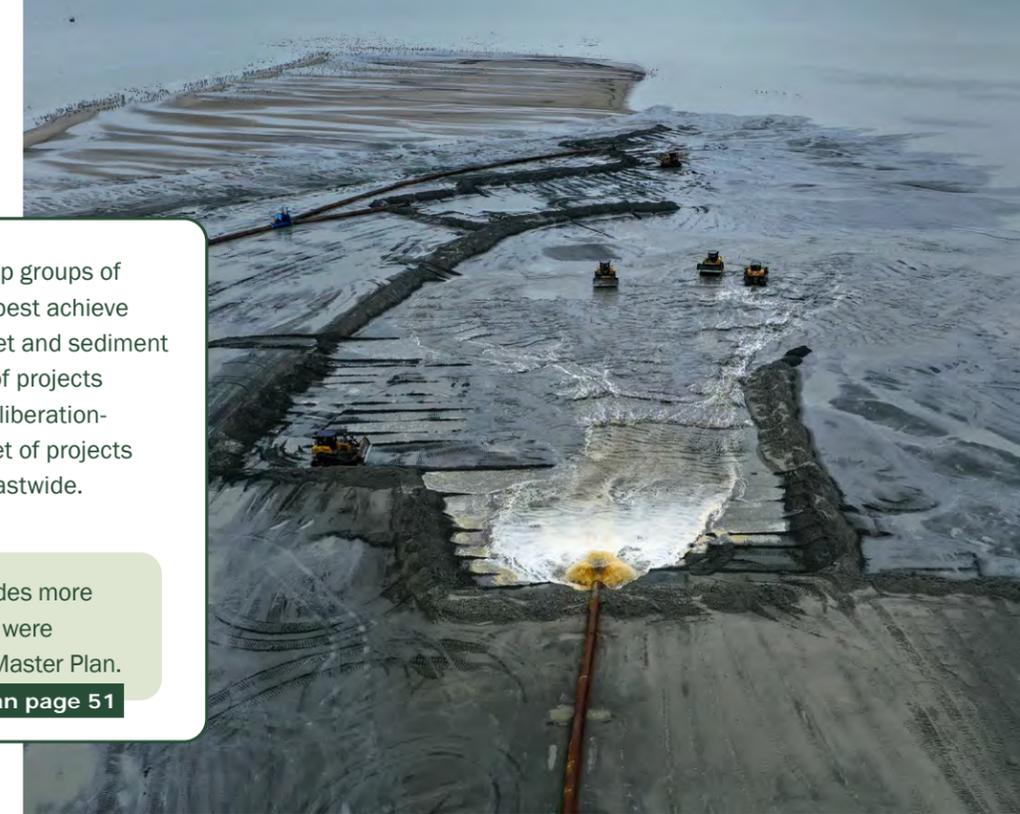


Image: West Belle Barrier Island Maintenance (CPRA)



Image: CPRA Staff on Offshore Trip, 2022 (CPRA)



Image: Regional Workgroup meeting (CPRA)

Image: Master Plan Community Conversation Meeting in Abbeville, 2022 (CPRA)



MODELS

A suite of models are used to predict how the coastal landscape and associated flood risks may change over the next 50 years under different environmental scenarios. They show how different restoration and risk reduction projects could change the coastal landscape and the impact on expected flood damages.

>>> **Chapter 2: Understand** describes the scientific and local knowledge that underpins the master planning process.

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INTEGRATED COMPARTMENT MODEL (ICM)



STORM SURGE AND WAVE MODELS (ADCIRC + SWAN)



COASTAL LOUISIANA RISK ASSESSMENT MODEL (CLARA)

Figure: Models used as part of the 2023 Coastal Master Plan process.

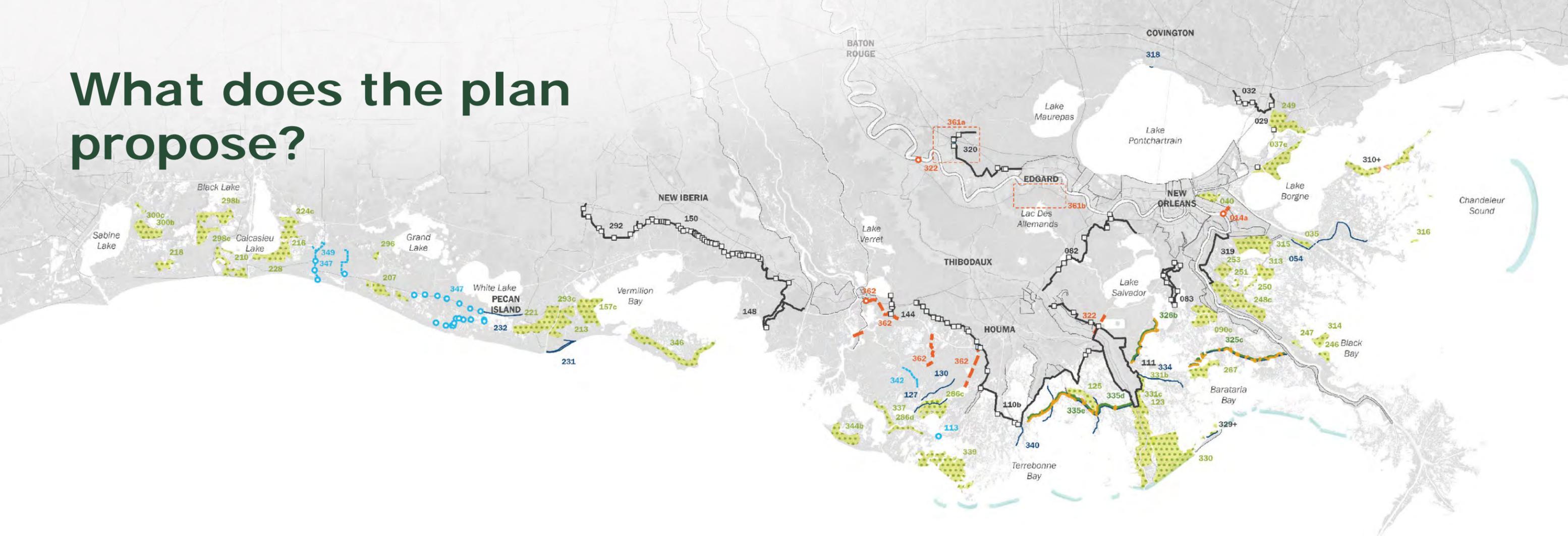
ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the development of the master plan, advisory groups are established and a broad network of coastal experts, residents, landowners, scientists, community leaders, local officials and stakeholders are asked to provide insight and guidance. By doing this, the master plan can identify challenges, understand what people value, and develop projects that respond to the Louisianaans' coastal priorities.



Image: Master Plan Public Outreach Meeting, 2023 (CPRA)

What does the plan propose?



To address the challenges of a changing coast, a suite of 77 restoration and risk reduction projects has been identified. These would prevent hundreds of square miles of land loss and reduce expected annual damage from storm surge-based flooding by billions of dollars and thousands of structures.

- 65 Restoration Projects
- 12 Structural Risk Reduction Projects
- \$11B for Nonstructural Risk Reduction Projects
- \$19B in Dredging Projects

In addition to these projects, \$2.5 billion is allocated to programmatic restoration efforts and small-scale strategies, such as bank stabilization and barrier island maintenance. Additionally, \$11.2 billion is allocated to nonstructural risk reduction activities, such as residential elevations, commercial floodproofing, and voluntary acquisition of properties.

Beyond the projects, the master plan acknowledges that the coast is dynamic, and additional adaptation will be required to continue living, working, and playing here. The master plan alone is not sufficient to respond to all the challenges the future may bring. It aims to be a catalyst for coordinating local, state, and federal efforts to help address the coastal land loss crisis and threats from storm surge-based flooding, and in pursuing the greenhouse gas reductions necessary to avoid the most severe impacts of climate change.

Explore the project types included in the master plan on the following pages. These work together to provide comprehensive restoration and risk reduction benefits.

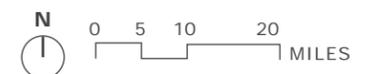


Figure: Funding by Project Type, in USD.

Explore more on CPRA's website. <https://coastal.la.gov/our-plan/2023-coastal-master-plan/>

- Structural Risk Reduction
- Ridge Restoration
- Marsh Creation
- Landbridge
- Diversion
- Hydrologic Restoration
- Barrier Island Maintenance
- Bank Stabilization

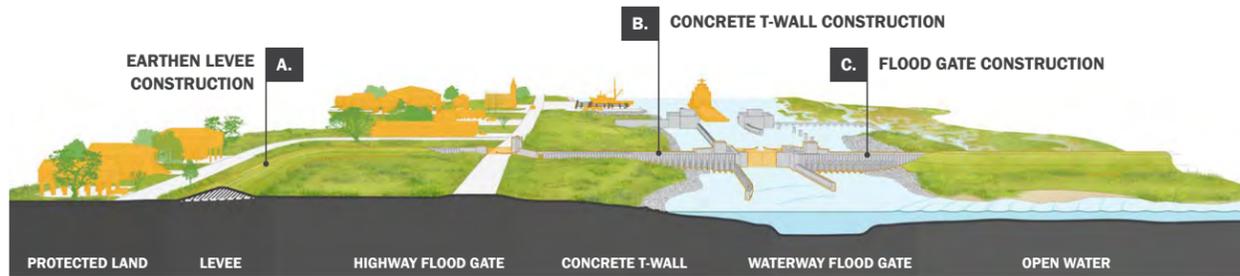
Map: Projects selected for funding as part of the 2023 Coastal Master Plan.



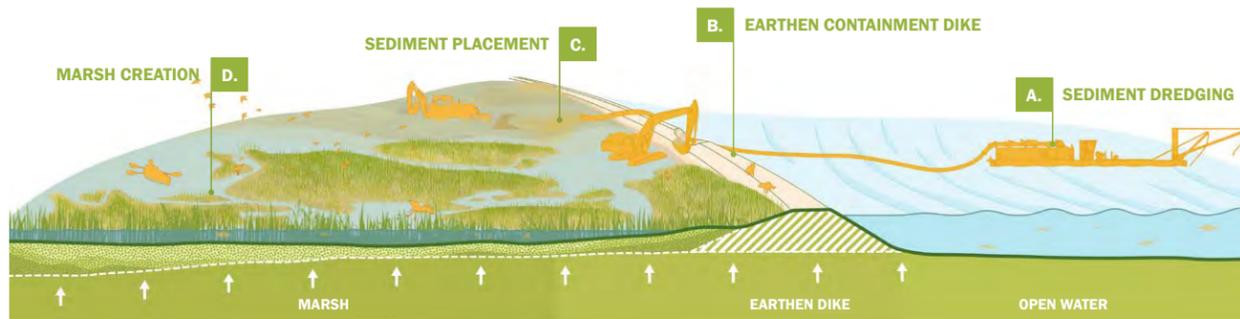
PROJECT TYPES



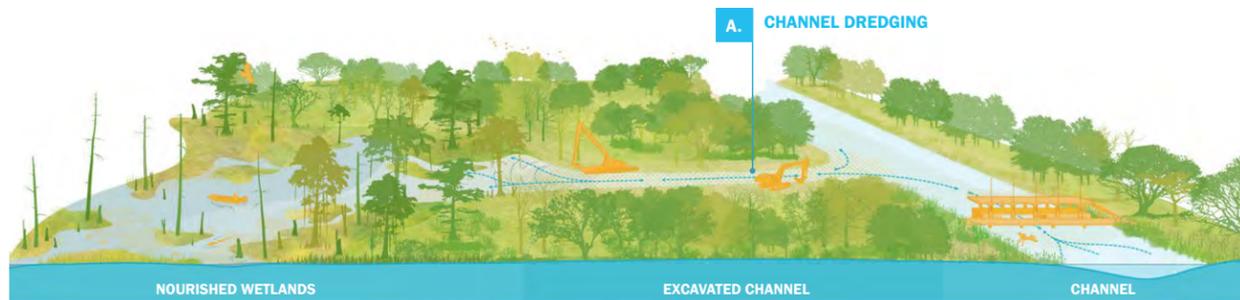
Structural Risk Reduction projects protect people and property with earthen levees, concrete T-walls, floodgates, and other structural components. They reduce the risk of storm surge flooding and damage within the protected area.



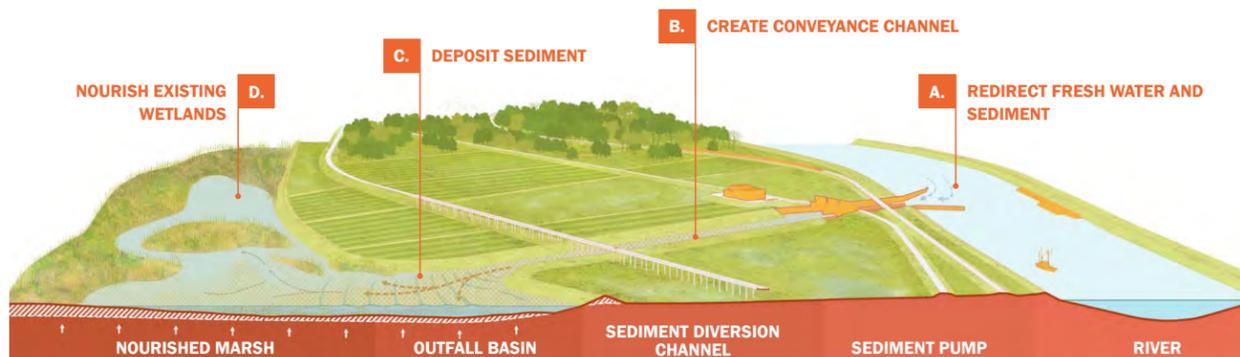
Marsh Creation projects restore landscape and ecosystem processes, enhance habitat, and provide additional storm surge attenuation. Wetlands are created through placement of dredged material and plantings in shallow open water or areas with deteriorated marsh.



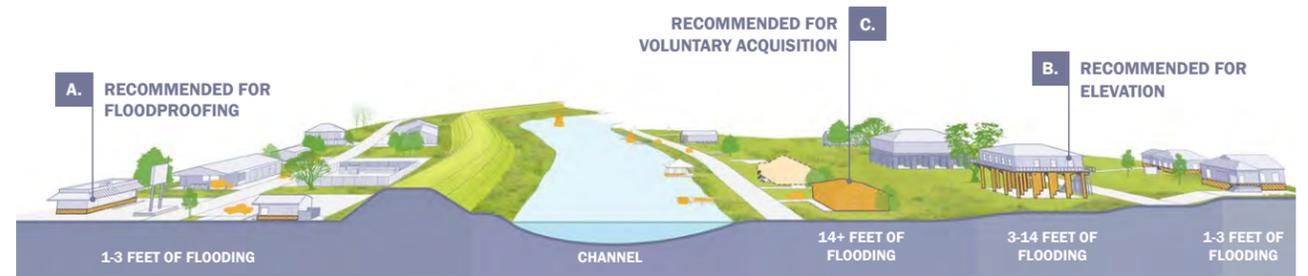
Hydrologic Restoration projects use techniques to ensure water movement across the landscape supports a healthy ecosystem at a basin or sub-basin scale. Small-scale hydrologic restoration focusing on restoring more localized hydrologic patterns are considered programmatically consistent with the master plan.



Diversions convey freshwater and sediment from rivers into adjacent wetland basins. These projects restore historic deltaic processes, build new land, nourish existing wetlands, and prevent saltwater incursion into the estuary.



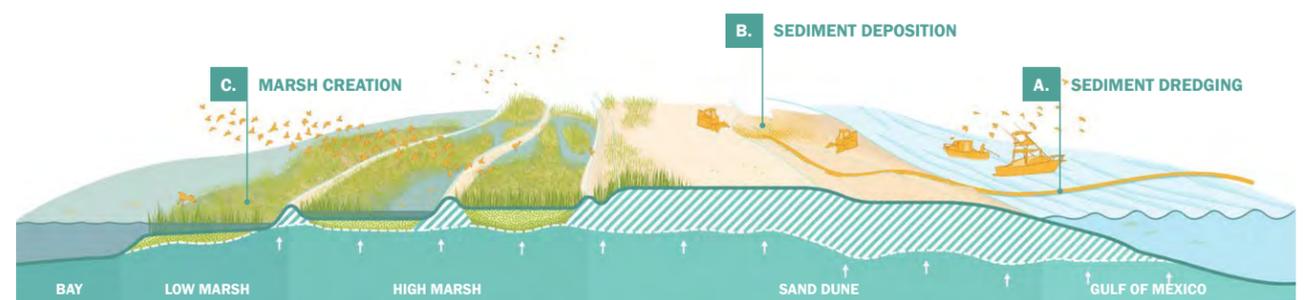
Nonstructural Risk Reduction measures include floodproofing, elevation, or acquisition of at-risk properties depending on projected flood depths. Nonstructural Risk Reduction measures are entirely voluntary and are undertaken in close collaboration with local stakeholders.



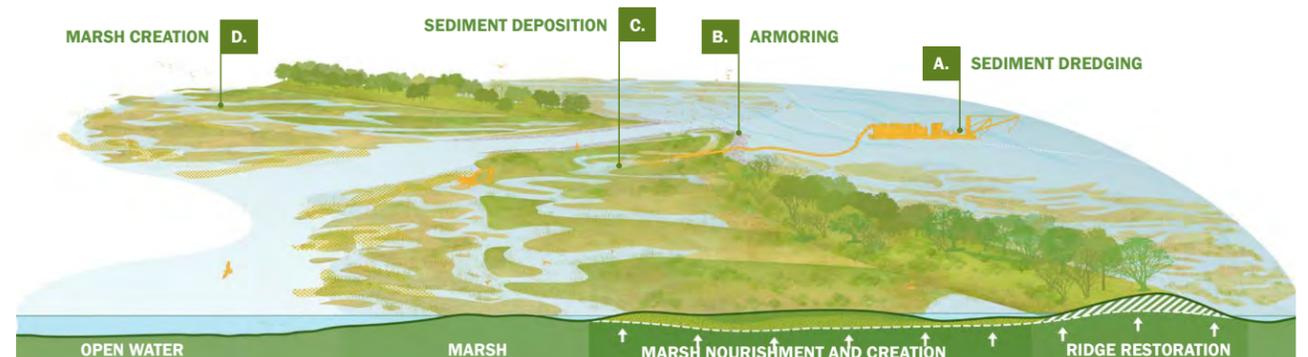
Ridge Restoration projects re-establish historic coastal ridges and forested maritime habitat through sediment placement and new plantings. Restored ridges are high points during storm events, providing refuge for animals and potentially reducing storm surge.



Barrier Island Maintenance projects use dredged sediment to rebuild and strengthen the beaches, dunes, and backbarrier marshes of degrading barrier islands in response to damage from storms. This work enhances natural storm surge attenuation and maintains or improves critical wildlife habitat.



Landbridges are linear tracts of constructed marshes oriented across coastal basins. Landbridges create habitat, attenuate waves, control the dispersal of sediment, and mitigate saltwater intrusion. They include reinforced channels to allow continued water exchange and navigation.

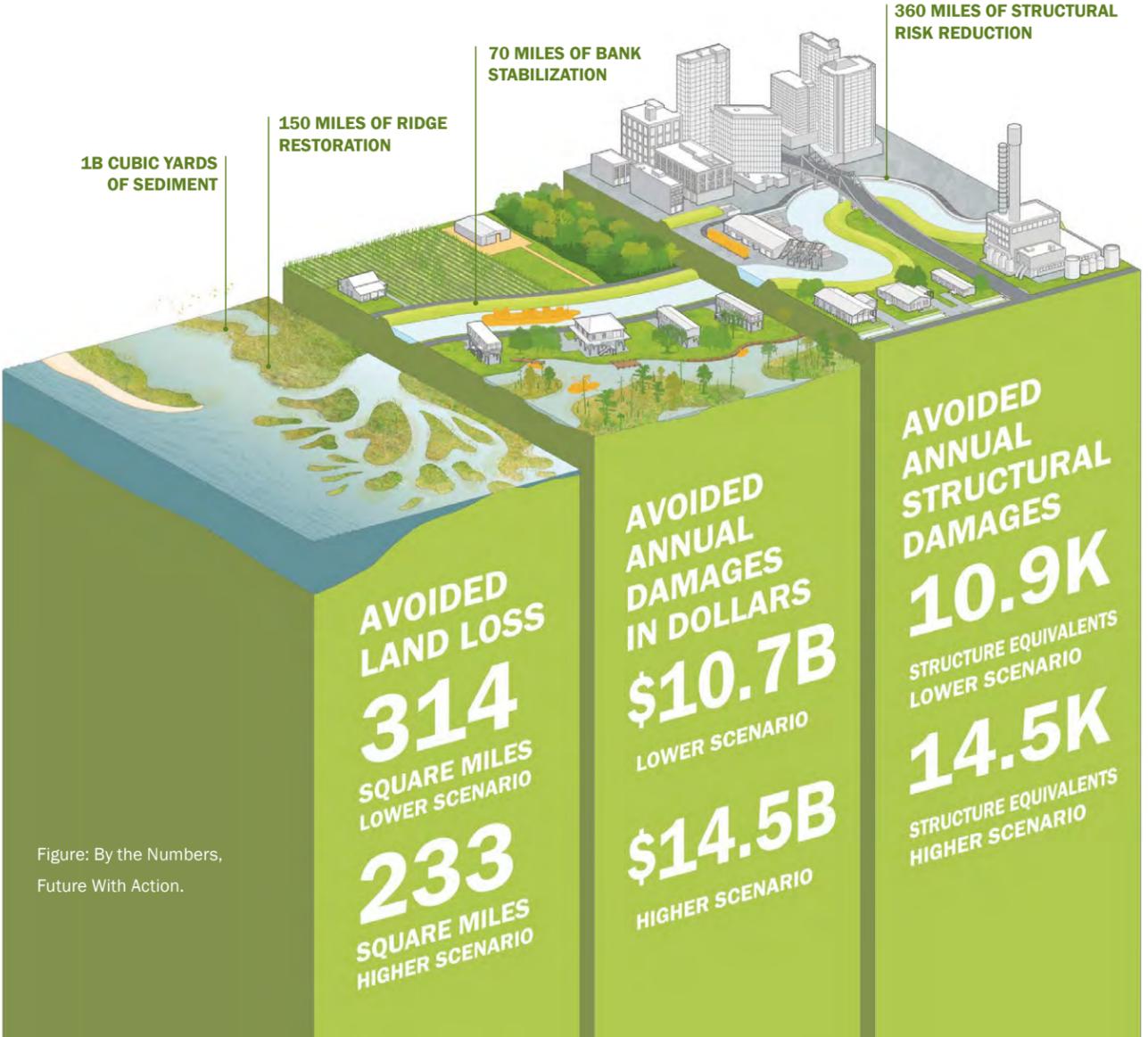


How will the plan benefit the coast?

Project implementation is sequenced over time to ensure the most beneficial projects are completed first. By understanding the impacts of the projects as a group rather than individually, CPRA maximizes benefits across the coast.

Compared to a future without the 65 restoration projects, the plan creates or maintains a significant amount of land that would otherwise be converted to open water over the next 50 years. These projects help maintain diverse ecosystems and retain key landscape features.

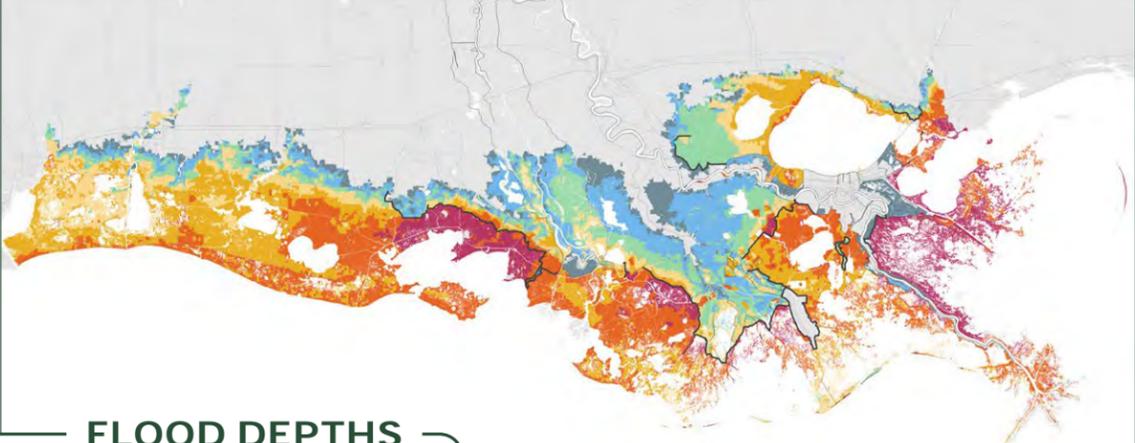
Many communities will benefit from the 12 structural risk reduction projects in the master plan, including new levees and improving existing structures to withstand greater storm surges. To provide risk reduction to coastal communities outside of the current and proposed levee systems, \$11.2 billion of the budget is recommended to support nonstructural risk reduction measures, such as elevations, floodproofing, and voluntary acquisition. This level of investment could mean that, at Year 50, under the lower environmental scenario, Louisiana will have less flood risk from hurricanes and tropical storms than it has today.



LAND CHANGE

Land area built or maintained that would have otherwise been lost by Year 50 ranges from 314 square miles in the lower scenario to 233 square miles in the higher scenario. Under the higher scenario, the benefits of many of the early projects diminish in the final decade as they can no longer keep pace with subsidence and accelerated rates of sea level rise.

FUTURE WITH ACTION | LOWER SCENARIO | YEAR 50



FLOOD DEPTHS

By Year 50, expected annual damage due to storm surge-based flooding may be reduced by \$7.7 billion under the lower scenario and \$10.7 billion under the higher scenario compared to a future without action. Nonstructural measures could further reduce expected annual damage by \$3.0 billion and \$3.8 billion under the lower and higher scenarios, respectively.

FUTURE WITH ACTION | LOWER SCENARIO | YEAR 50

Supporting local decisions

The plan provides a vision for a future coast that is only possible with the involvement of local leaders and individuals across the coast. By providing detailed projections of land change and flood depths, and highlighting regional approaches to target local challenges, the plan aims to empower people and communities.

This plan is the blueprint for where we go from here: the goal is a sustainable coast where people can continue to enjoy the things that make coastal Louisiana's regions economically, ecologically, and culturally unique and valuable. Sharing local information is critical to empower people and communities to get involved with the master plan process and make decisions about their lives on the coast.

>>> Chapter 6: Regional Approach provides insights on locally specific challenges, initiatives, and master plan benefits.

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A REGIONAL APPROACH

Throughout the master plan development process, CPRA met with residents and convened Regional Workgroups to discuss issues, priorities, and possible solutions for each of the regions. These conversations informed every step of the process to develop locally specialized approaches. The result is a master plan that better reflects the experiences of coastal residents to support those that rely on the coast, today and in the future.

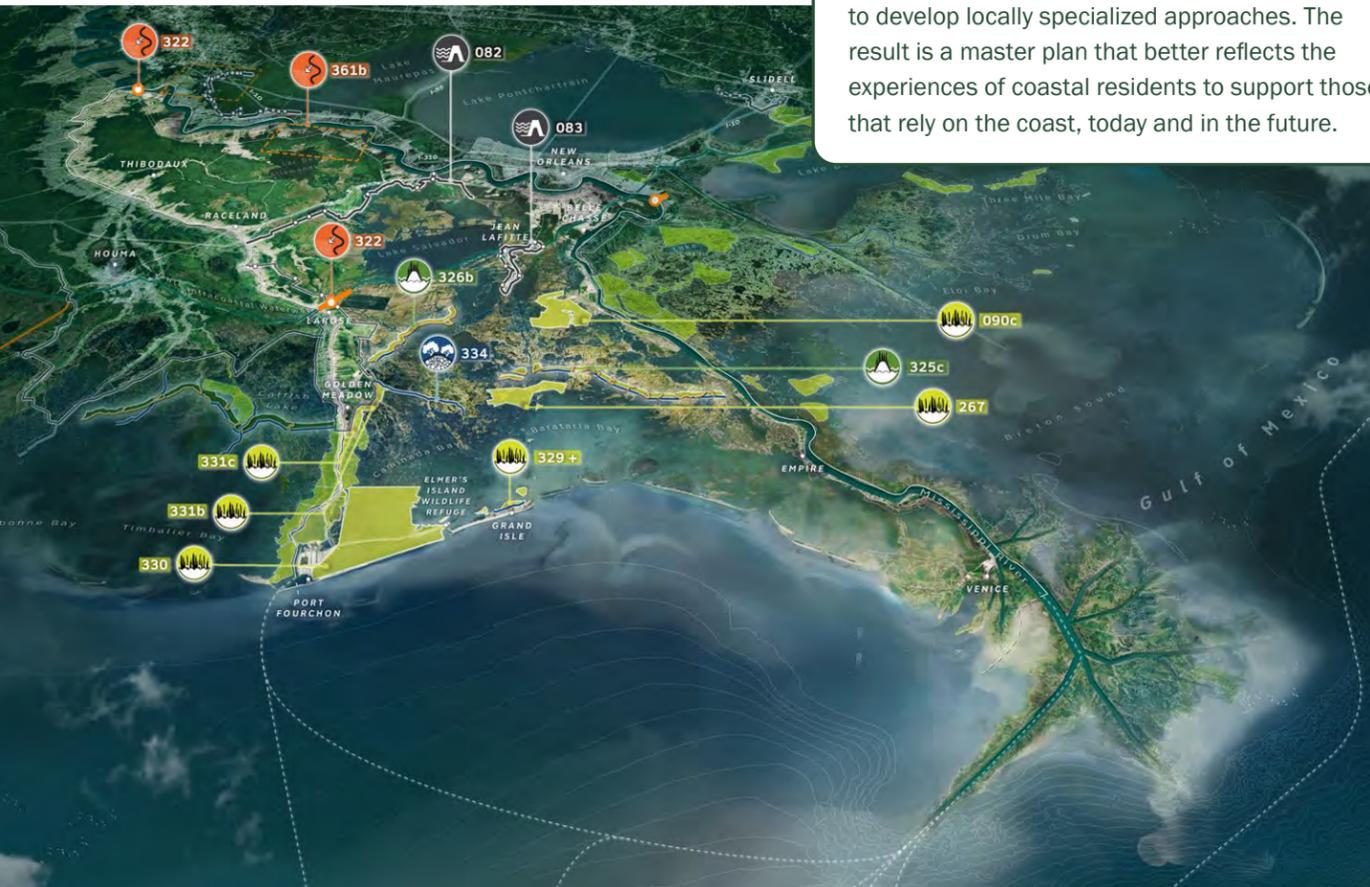


Figure: Aerial View of the Barataria Region with the 2023 Coastal Master Plan Projects.



Figure: Illustrating Coastal Change spread from the Master Plan.

ILLUSTRATING COASTAL CHANGE

In addition to storm surge-based flood risk, Louisiana's coastal communities may experience daily high tide flooding which can impede day-to-day activity, as well as emergency services. Many low-lying communities can expect to experience increased frequency and severity of this local flooding over the next 50 years as sea levels continue to rise.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Data overviews of plan impacts and benefits are available through fact sheets at the Regional, Parish, Community, and Project levels. These include information ranging from localized flood depths to the land change benefits by year of a particular restoration project. The online data viewer provides an even greater level of detail with the ability to find high-resolution benefits data, search projects, understand coastwide implementation, and more. The goal of providing this level of data is to empower local leaders and residents to make decisions using information specific to them.

Figure: Example Parish Fact Sheet.

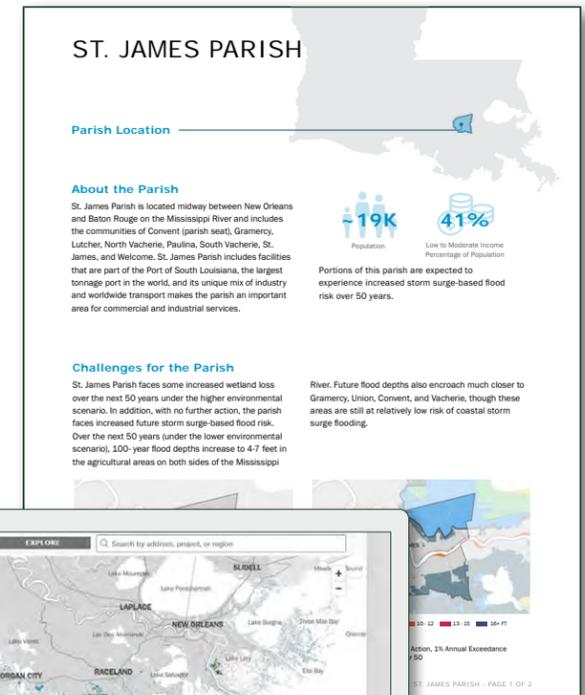
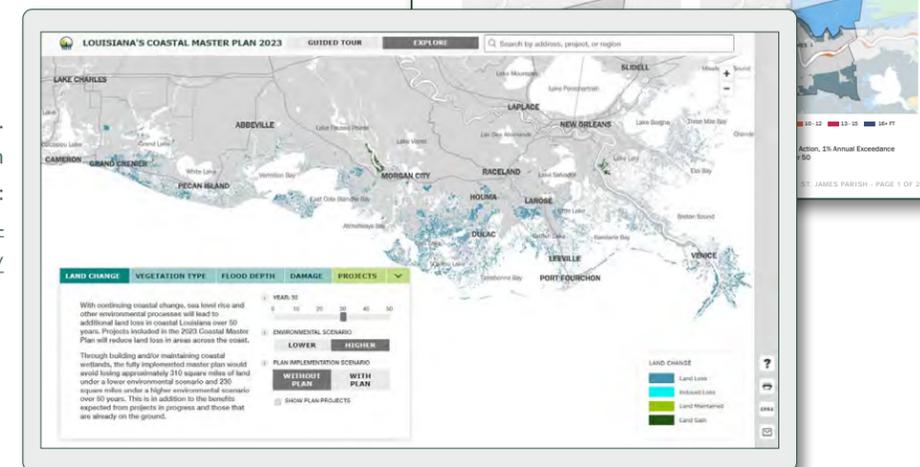


Figure: Data Viewer.

Explore more on CPRA's website: <https://coastal.la.gov/our-plan/2023-coastal-master-plan/>



Implementing the plan

While the master plan provides a blueprint for restoration and planning activities in coastal Louisiana, a coalition of support is required to create a more sustainable and resilient coast.

Given the emergency facing coastal Louisiana, it is imperative that all government agencies act quickly and in accordance with the master plan. The goal is for the master plan to drive and expedite state action across agencies, including with the state's partners at the local and federal levels, consistent with their mandates and missions. By leveraging local government initiatives, the efforts of other state agencies, federal studies and funding, and the work of non-profit and community-based organizations, CPRA aims to expand the reach of the coastal program.

The Governor's Adaptive Governance Initiative has promoted information sharing among state agencies and their assessment of vulnerabilities, identification

of adaptation actions, and pursuit of measures to make the coastal communities more resilient. CPRA supports the agencies in their efforts to consider environmental change projections from the master plan in their long-term planning and decision-making.

CPRA also works directly with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to monitor and maintain levees, and coordinates with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other federal partners during and after damaging storms.

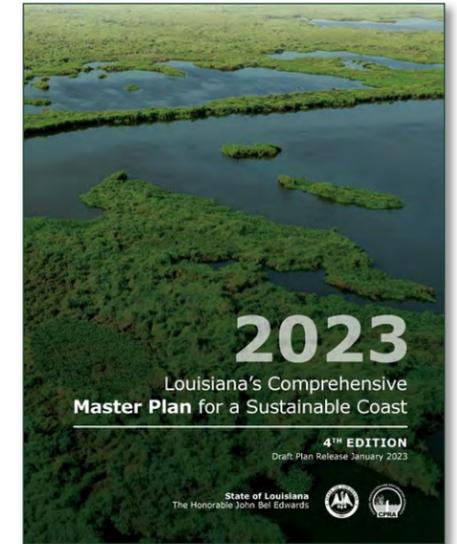
The state's pursuit of these endeavors is anchored in a commitment to the people and places that make up coastal Louisiana. While restoration and risk reduction planning is essential to provide consistent, long-term investment in coastal communities and ecosystems, it cannot meet every need.

Stay involved!

Since the creation of the first master plan, engagement with diverse stakeholders, communities, and technical experts has been crucial to defining goals and developing solutions to address land loss and storm surge-based flooding. Your continued involvement is of critical importance.

2023 Coastal Master Plan Appendices, available online, document the technical improvements and analysis that support the master plan development. The Master Plan Data Viewer was updated to help stakeholders understand the coastal crisis, what implementation of this plan would accomplish, and dive deeper into the data. You can also sign up for master plan updates (email us at masterplan@la.gov) and follow CPRA's social media accounts to stay informed of new advancements and upcoming events.

CPRA's mission is to keep listening and learning through having conversations with coastal residents.



- **Explore the Master Plan**
- **Explore the Data Viewer**
- **Explore the Technical Appendices**



More on CPRA's website:

<https://coastal.la.gov/our-plan/2023-coastal-master-plan/>

or contact us at masterplan@la.gov.

-  @louisianacpra
-  @LouisianaCPRA
-  Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
-  Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana



Image: White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area, 2021 (Louisiana Sea Grant College Program)



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Appendix G

To Be Added