

Golden Triangle Marsh Creation (LA_RESTORE_002_000_Cat1)



Project Name: Golden Triangle Marsh Creation - Planning **Cost:** Category 1: \$4,347,733 **Responsible Council Member:** State of Louisiana

Project Details: This project completes the planning activities to create approximately 600 acres of marsh within the Golden Triangle Marsh system. Because the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal/Lake Borgne Surge Barrier stretches across the Golden Triangle Marsh, these wetlands provide an important natural buffer in the multiple lines of defense protecting geographically vulnerable communities in New Orleans from storm surge. In addition, the Golden Triangle Marsh falls within - and if fully implemented would enhance - the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge, which includes fresh and brackish marshes and coastal hardwood forest, and serves as valuable wildlife, fish, and shellfish habitat.

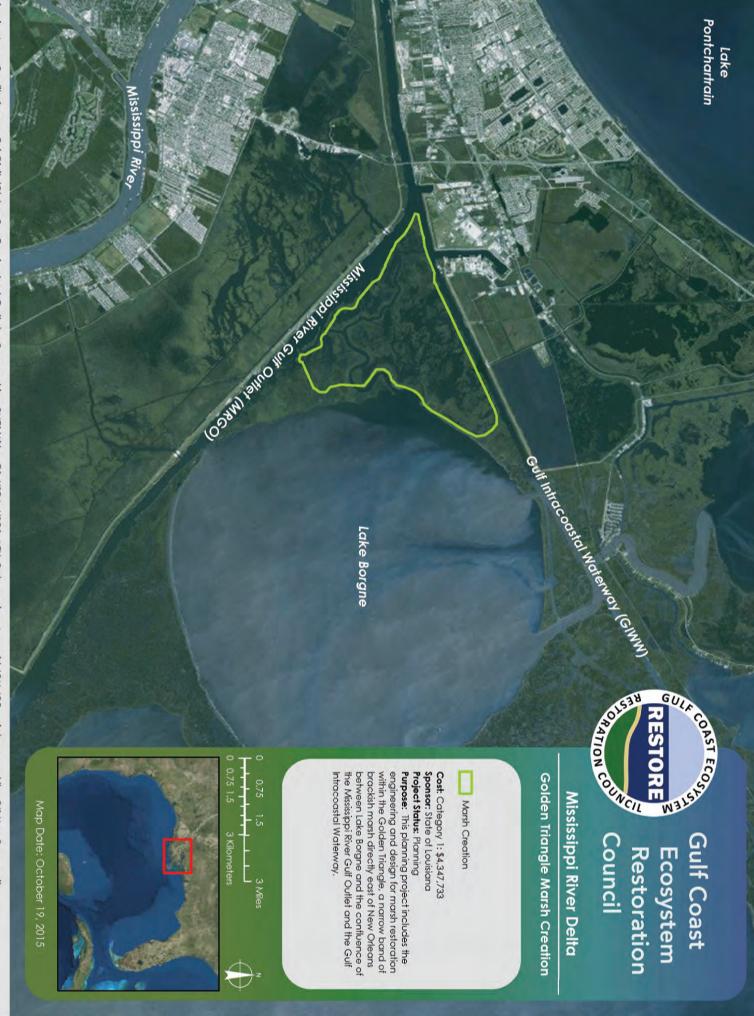
Activities: Activities include engineering and design of the Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project, leading to construction-ready plans and specifications and the development of an adaptive management plan to guide decision-making for future project maintenance activities. If the plans are implemented in the future, the project would be constructed by hydraulically dredging and pumping sediment from Lake Borgne to a 600-acre fill site located approximately 16 miles from the borrow site. The borrow area, which consists mostly of clays and silts, currently has a depth of -10 feet and would be dredged to a depth of -30 feet. Earthen containment dikes would be constructed to facilitate the construction of the marsh. The engineering and design and permitting is expected to take three years to complete.

Environmental Benefits: The project, if implemented in the future, would restore and protect approximately 600 acres of valuable wetland, fish, and wildlife habitat within the Golden Triangle, a narrow band of brackish marsh directly east of New Orleans between Lake Borgne and the confluence of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. This project would create important habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife species. Many of these species support recreationally- and commercially-important fishing and hunting industries.

The project resides partially within the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge boundary (the largest urban wildlife refuge in the United States), and as a result would greatly benefit the fish and wildlife populations that utilize the refuge and enhance recreational opportunities in the area.

Duration: The timeline for this project is three years for engineering and design and permitting. If fully implemented in the future, the project would be followed by four years of construction.

More information on this activity can be found in Appendix D. Mississippi River Delta; Unique Identifier: LA_RESTORE_002_000_Cat1.



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