



CPRA Awards E & D Contracts for Deepwater Horizon NRDA Restoration Projects

Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) announces awards for engineering and design (E&D) contracts for coastal restoration projects to address injuries to natural resources caused by the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill. The projects are funded through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and are outlined in the State's approved NRDA DWH Restoration Plan #1 and are also included in the State's Coastal Master Plan. These projects aim to restore Louisiana wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitats, as well as habitat on federally managed lands, and bird habitat.

"With DWH restoration dollars coming to the state over the next 15 years, we have an opportunity to address coastal restoration and flood risk reduction on a scale that has never been done before. We must remain focused on addressing the injuries from the DWH Oil Spill, while also remaining vigilant in implementing projects within our Coastal Master Plan to improve the overall resiliency of coastal Louisiana," says Johnny Bradberry, Executive Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Activities.

The **Lake Borgne Marsh Creation Project** (Increment 1) is located in St. Bernard Parish. The project would extend approximately four miles from Shell Beach on the southern rim of Lake Borgne to Lena Lagoon on the east. This project will dredge sediment from Lake Borgne to create approximately 1,548 acres of marsh. The Duplantis Design Group (DDG), a Louisiana owned company headquartered in Thibodaux, LA, was awarded this project. DDG is also subcontracting with national firm Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC).

The **Terrebonne Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation Project** (Bayou Terrebonne Increment) is located in western Terrebonne Parish. The ridge restoration feature of this project will restore approximately 126 acres of earthen ridge and the marsh creation feature of this project will dredge sediment from offshore to create approximately 1,370 acres of marsh. HDR Engineering was the successful bidder on this project.

The **Barataria Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation Project** (Spanish Pass Increment) is located in Plaquemines Parish. Spanish Pass is a natural historic tributary of the Mississippi River located west of Venice, Louisiana. The natural channel banks and adjacent marsh have degraded due to natural and manmade causes. The ridge restoration feature of this project will restore 120 acres of earthen ridge. The marsh creation feature of this project will dredge sediment from the Mississippi River, near Venice, LA, to create approximately 1,134 acres of marsh. W.F. Baird and Associates in cooperation with Louisiana based company, Royal Engineering, will be leading the engineering and design efforts associated with this project.

"A top priority of this agency is to implement projects as quickly as possible to restore Louisiana's coast. The business of coastal restoration will become a huge economic engine for Louisiana, and we must grow and expand our local human resources and knowledge base. The firms selected



demonstrate how local and national firms are working together to share and transfer knowledge to get projects on the ground quicker,” states Michael Ellis, CPRA Executive Director.

Firms awarded contracts were chosen through a highly competitive selection process in which proposals were evaluated and scored according to criteria including specialization, personnel qualifications, capacity and other evaluation. Scoring considers firm workload with the agency, firm/team specialized experience, key personnel qualifications and experience, capacity of firm, and participation of the prime and/or sub-consultants in Hudson Initiatives Programs.

Additional projects included in the NRDA final restoration plan can be accessed online at www.la-dwh.com or www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/louisiana.

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CPRA was established as the single, centralized, State of Louisiana Authority, to consolidate state, parish and federal personnel and resources to create, coordinate and implement a Coastal Master Plan of unified vision for remediation, restoration and protection, to reduce hurricane storm surge flood impact, to restore our bountiful natural resources, to protect our nation’s critical energy infrastructure, and to secure Louisiana’s coast now and for future generations.