

WEST GRAND TERRE RESTORATION



BACKGROUND

West Grand Terre is located in Jefferson Parish immediately northeast of Grand Isle, and it extends 4 miles from Barataria Pass to Pass Abel.

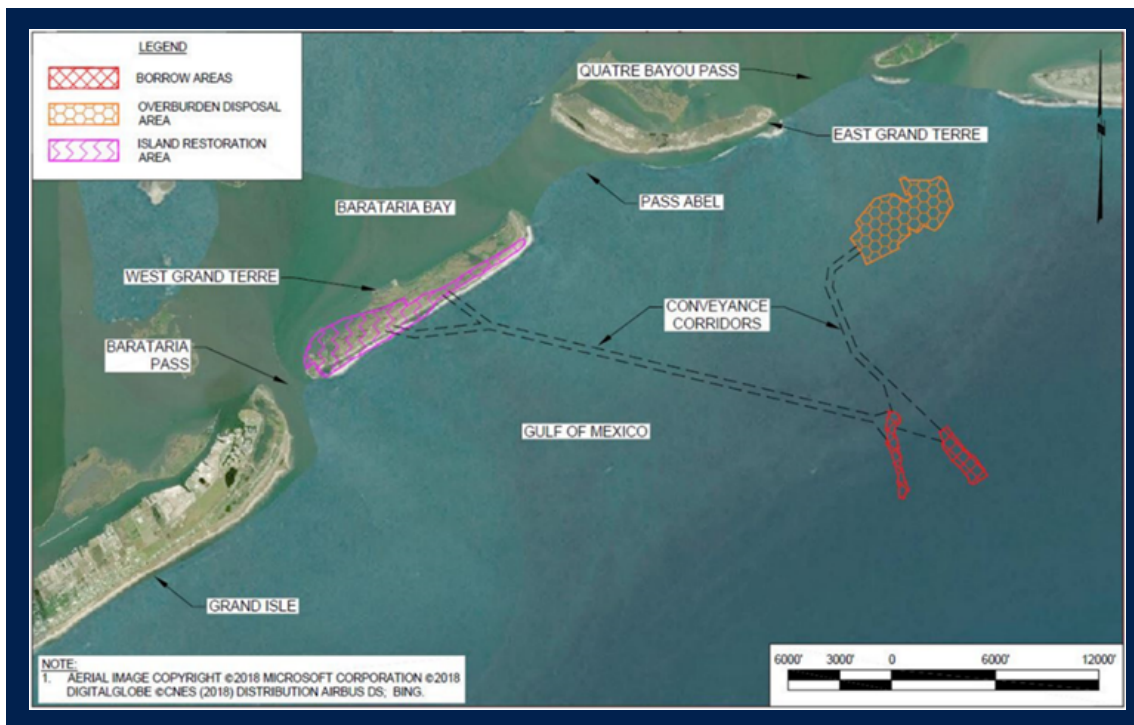
Louisiana's barrier islands have decreased in land mass by more than 50% over the last 100 years, with the Barataria/Plaquemines region being one of the most rapidly disappearing areas in the state. The barrier islands are experiencing island narrowing and land loss due to a complex interaction of environmental factors, hurricane impacts, and human activity. These barrier islands were also heavily impacted by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

PROJECT DESIGN

The primary objective of this project is to address gulf shoreline erosion, diminished protection against storm surge, and subsidence of back barrier marshes, as well as restore dune and back barrier marsh habitat on West Grand Terre to provide storm surge and wave attenuation. The project constructed approximately 14,100 feet of beach and dune with an area of 295 acres, as well as restoring approximately 144 acres of back barrier marsh. The contractor dredged approximately 5.6 million cubic yards of material for placement within the island footprint. A rock revetment was constructed to protect restored marsh on the gulf side and extend the rock dike around Fort Livingston. A rock revetment spur is located on the Gulf side which will capture sand transported by longshore currents.



Aerial View of West Grand Terre taken Aug. 2022

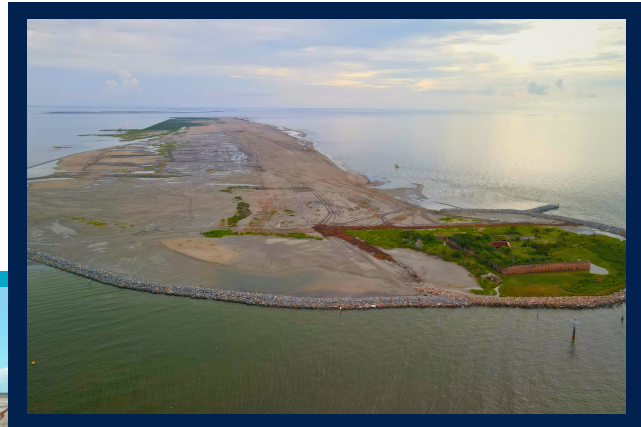
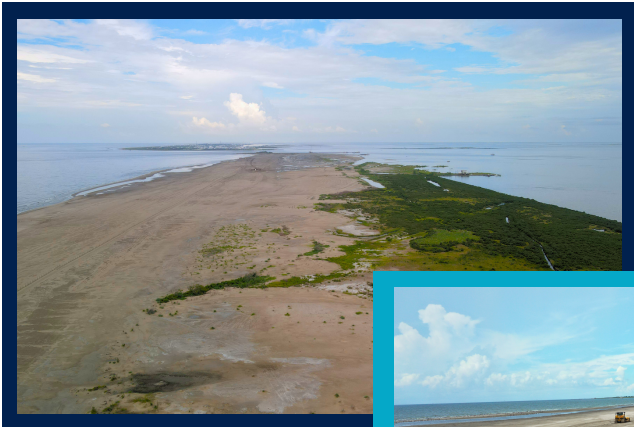


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PROJECT BENEFITS

The restoration of West Grand Terre was completed in July 2022. This project restored and enhanced interior wetlands, which benefits interior wetlands and Gulf estuarine dependent marine species. Restoring West Grand Terre also protects, restores, and maintains ecologically important breeding and nesting habitat for Gulf species such as colonial nesting waterbirds, including the brown pelican, Louisiana's state bird, and migratory shorebirds, including the endangered piping plover. In addition, the project promotes community resilience and reduce risk to infrastructure by providing storm surge and wave attenuation, while maintaining shoreline integrity and increasing the island's width and longevity.



The island previously served as the headquarters for pirate Jean Lafitte and his crew of Baratarians privateers before the federal government cast them from the island in 1814. Nearly 30 years later, construction began on one of Louisiana's largest coastal forts – Fort Livingston. Construction of Fort Livingston was halted at the start of the Civil War and never completed, but the fort still stands and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Courtesy Of: National Register of Historic Places



\$100 M
Natural Resource
Damages
Assessment Funds



5.6 M
Cubic Yards
of Sediment



14,000+
Feet of Beach
& Dune
Revitalized