Project Name: Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline - Planning  
Cost: Category 1: $3,220,460  
Responsible Council Member: State of Louisiana

Project Details: The Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline project will complete the necessary planning to create a living shoreline to protect and restore the Biloxi Marshes. The Biloxi Marshes consist of approximately 49,000 hectares (approximately 121,000 acres) of brackish and salt marshes, which provide an important storm buffer for New Orleans as well as key habitat and ecosystem services. The marshes have been greatly impacted by shoreline erosion from wind-driven waves.

Activities: Project activities will provide for detailed engineering and design of the project, resulting in construction-ready plans and specifications and the development of an adaptive management plan to guide decision-making for future project maintenance activities. If implemented in the future, the project would create a living breakwater structure by mechanically placing a manufactured structure, or suite of structures, off the shoreline of Eloi Bay and Eloi Point, near the mouth of Bayou la Loutre. The structures may consist of concrete, plastic mesh, steel rebar, limestone, oyster shells, and/or concrete admixtures. The width of these living breakwaters would vary depending on manufactured structure and wave conditions. The target height for the living breakwaters would be mean water level.

Environmental Benefits: If implemented in the future, the project would create approximately 47,000 feet of bioengineered oyster barrier reef fringing the marshes, which would reduce shoreline erosion and recession, prevent further marsh degradation, promote community resilience, and enhance local fisheries and oyster production.

Duration: The timeline for the planning project is estimated to be 25 months for engineering, design and permitting. If implemented in the future, the project would take approximately 24 months for construction.

More information on this activity can be found in Appendix D. Mississippi River Delta; Unique Identifier: LA_RESTORE_003_000_Cat1.