

Louisiana TIG Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #7:

Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats and Birds



PLAN DESCRIPTION

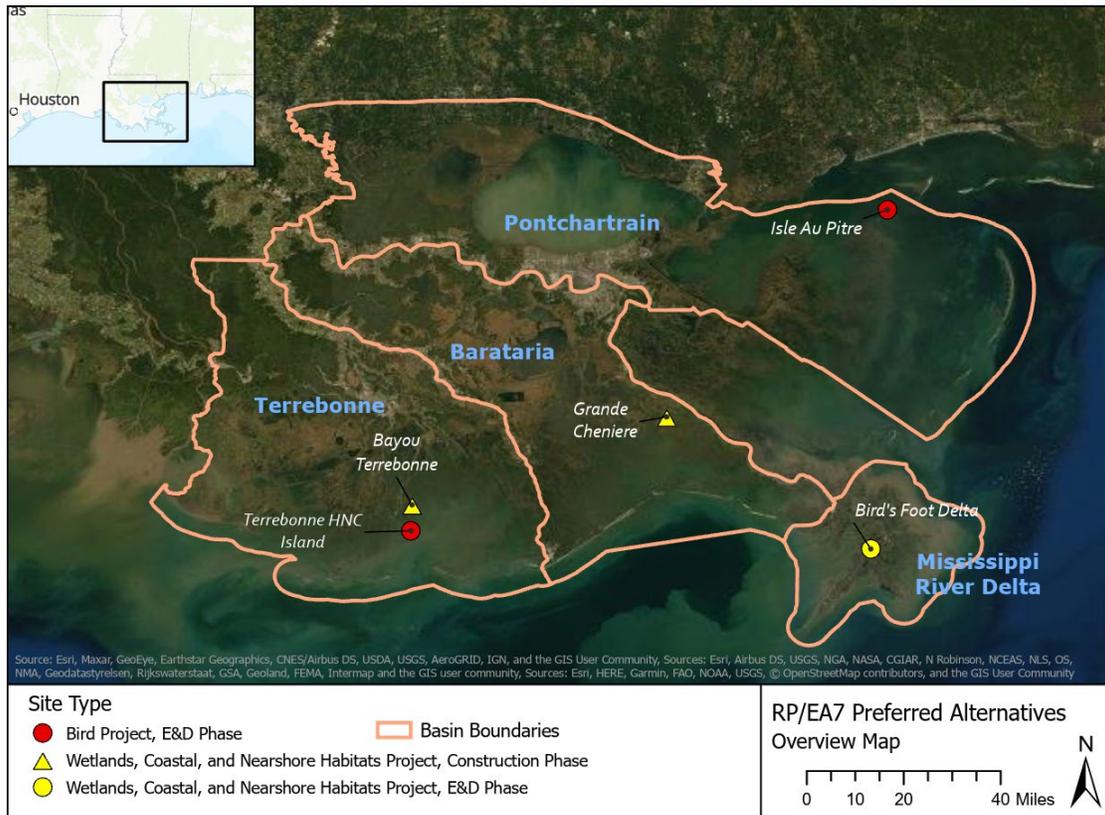
The Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #7: Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats and Birds proposes five preferred alternatives. Three projects would be selected for engineering and design (E&D) and two for construction. The proposed projects include three under the Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats restoration type: (1) Bird's Foot Delta Hydrologic Restoration project (E&D), (2) Terrebonne Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation Project: Bayou Terrebonne Increment (full implementation), and (3) Grande Cheniere Ridge Marsh Creation (full implementation); and two under the Birds restoration type: (1) Isle au Pitre Restoration (E&D), and (2) Terrebonne Houma Navigation Canal Island Restoration (E&D). Summary descriptions of each of the proposed projects are presented on pages 2 and 3 of this fact sheet.

ESTIMATED COSTS

The estimated cost to implement the Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group's proposed action (five preferred alternatives) in Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #7 is \$234,000,000.

PROPOSED RESTORATION PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED
<p>Grande Cheniere Ridge Marsh Creation (Construction)</p>	<p>The goal of the proposed marsh creation and ridge restoration project is to create wetland habitat in degraded coastal marsh to maximize the ecological benefits for the project design life. The project would create up to 624 acres of marsh near Bayou Grande Cheniere, approximately 12,480 linear feet of earthen ridge along Jefferson Canal, and approximately 48,900 linear feet of earthen containment dike.</p>	<p>\$65,000,000</p>
<p>Terrebonne Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation Project: Bayou Terrebonne Increment (Construction)</p>	<p>The goal of the proposed marsh creation and ridge restoration project is to restore and conserve coastal wetlands and habitats impacted by the DWH oil spill. The project would create up to 1,430 acres of brackish and saline marsh and restore up to 80 acres of earthen ridge.</p>	<p>\$156,343,233</p>
<p>Bird’s Foot Delta Hydrologic Restoration (E&D)</p>	<p>The goal of this proposed project is to restore the hydrology of the Mississippi River Bird’s Foot Delta by dredging Pass-a-Loutre, South Pass, and Southeast Pass to reconnect the Mississippi River with the marshes of the eastern and central Bird’s Foot Delta. The project seeks to accomplish four goals: 1) Restore riverine processes to enhance natural marsh accretion via existing small sediment diversions (crevasses) – creating approximately 750 acres of tidal wetlands; 2) Build and enhance over 1,500 acres of subtidal mudflats and submerged aquatic weed beds; 3) Use dredged sediment beneficially to create over 1,000 acres of fresh and brackish marsh; and 4) Use dredged sediment to create approximately 20 acres of beach habitat for colonial nesting waterbirds such as terns, skimmers, and solitary shorebirds.</p>	<p>\$6,000,000</p>
<p>Isle au Pitre Restoration (E&D)</p>	<p>This proposed project would enhance nesting conditions on the existing island by elevating portions of the island with dredged sediment and planting suitable vegetation for nesting brown pelicans and wading birds. If, during design, there is an economically feasible method to increase the size of the island, the footprint of the island would be expanded by up to approximately 80 acres. The habitat would also be diversified with the addition of shell rakes for American oystercatchers (<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>) and shell or small limestone on the perimeter of the island to create attractive tern and black skimmer nesting habitat.</p>	<p>\$3,500,000</p>
<p>Terrebonne HNC (Houma Navigation Canal) Island Restoration (E&D)</p>	<p>This proposed project is designed to restore and enlarge the island from its current size of 32 acres to approximately 50 acres. This would be accomplished by importing dredged sediment from a nearby suitable sand source and disposing of it adjacent and onto the existing island. Prior to placing sand, the existing rock ring would be restored to its previous 50-acre perimeter ring for two purposes. First, the rock ring would contain the deposited sediment and second, it would provide erosion protection from wind driven wave energy. The elevation of the island would be increased to prevent routine tidal inundation and increase nesting success. Limestone aggregate would be deposited adjacent to the edge of the island to create a low maintenance beach-like feature for nesting terns. Following construction, the island would be planted with suitable</p>	<p>\$3,100,000</p>



Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #7: Proposed Preferred