



Minerals Management Service

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News Release

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MMS Approves \$168,000 Grant for Louisiana Shoreline Protection

St. Mary Parish to receive grant for Bayou Sale Ridge habitat near Point Chevreuil

NEW ORLEANS – The Interior Department’s Minerals Management Service (MMS) has approved a \$167,861 grant to St. Mary Parish in Louisiana. The grant, provided through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), is for the Point Chevreuil Shoreline Protection project.

The grant money will be used to help reduce and reverse shoreline erosion rates and protect the natural marsh habitat at Bayou Sale Ridge, located approximately 55 miles southeast of Lafayette, LA in the vicinity of Point Chevreuil. Construction is planned for a foreshore rock dike parallel to the eastern shoreline of East Cote Blanche Bay. When completed, the project will protect about 4,250 linear feet of shoreline, preventing the loss of 26 acres of habitat over a 20 year period.

“MMS is committed to helping Louisiana in its vital coastal restoration efforts through the CIAP program,” said MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Director Lars Herbst. “We are proud to partner with St. Mary Parish in supporting important conservation projects like the Point Chevreuil Shoreline Protection Plan.”

The CIAP was created by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and provides \$250 million annually, from 2007-2010, to six eligible Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas producing states – Louisiana, Alabama, Alaska, California, Mississippi, and Texas. The funding to Louisiana included \$127.5 million for each of the fiscal years 2007 and 2008. Nineteen Coastal Political Subdivisions (parishes) share in the funding of projects outlined in the state’s approved plan.

—MMS—

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