RESTORATION PROJECT FOR LAKE SALVADOR LOUISIANA FEBRUARY 4, 1991 OIL DISCHARGE

Description

The project is to be constructed on the Salvador Wildlife Management Area and will affect approximately 1500 acres of fresh water marsh. The project known as the "Netherlands Area" (see Figure 1) will reduce erosion from Lake Cataouatche and enhance aquatic vegetation growth which will increase nursery habitat for estuarine dependent species.

The project includes approximately 835 ft. of piling tire breakwater that will be an addition to a Corps of Engineers project that they are constructing as mitigation for their West Bank Hurricane Protection Project. This project would complete the structure for the "Netherlands" area.

Project Features

The plans and specifications for the piling tire breakwater have been completed by the Corps of Engineers. Both Projects will be constructed in a continuous manner and when completed will include a total of approximately 4,330 feet of piling tire breakwater (see Figure 2). The construction specifications for this project were developed by the Corps of Engineers. See Figure 3 for construction details of the piling tire breakwater.

Natural Resource Values

The Neatherlands area includes approximately 1,500 acres of marsh, cypress ridges, wooded spoil banks, aquatic beads, and open water within the Salvador Wildlife Management Area. entire areas was, at one time, lovood and pumped. The eastern portion of the tract (735 acres) was used as an oil tank farm during World War II and is primarily (675 acres) open water. This portion also contains approximately 60 acres of fresh marsh. The open water area was primarily an aquatic bed when it was protected from Lake Cataouatche by fresh marsh. However, as the marsh subsided and eroded from wave wash over the years, the aquatic bed was exposed to wave action and increased turbidity from the lake, and was eventually lost. The western portion of the Neatherlands tract encompasses 1,065 acres. It is composed of approximately 40 acres of wooded spoil banks and cypress ridge, 60 acres of maidencane and bulltongue marsh; the remainder is aquatic bed. The aquatic bed includes eurasian milfoil, coontail, and American lotus. This aquatic bed and associated marsh and woodlands is productive habitat for fish, ducks,

alligators, and numerous other species of waterfowl and furbearers. Additionally, the Neatherlands serves as a feeding area for at least one breed pair of bald eagles. Presently, a cypress ridge and old spoil bank and a small amount of maidencane marsh protect the aquatic bed from the wave wash of Lake Cataouatche. However, based on the current rate of land deterioration, it has been projected that within 25 years the eastern Neatherlands area would be fully a part of the lake and that the aquatic bed and marsh and woodlands within the western portion would become open water. Further, it was projected that a timber-pile and used-tire breakwater at the Neatherlands/Lake Cataouatche interface would maintain existing conditions for the next 50 years.



