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St. Bernard Parish Government

2021 Annual Coastal Report



President Guy S. McInnis

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*Golden Triangle Marsh Creation
(Source: Capt. George Ricks)*

SBPG Coastal Division

**Executive Director of Coastal Operations
Coastal Zone Management Administrator**
John Lane
jlane@sbpg.net

Consultant
Jerry Graves, Ph.D.
Arcadis
jerry.graves@arcadis.com

Consultant
Capt. George Ricks
gricks@sbpg.net

The end of Delacroix Highway at Bayou La Loutre





III. Master Project List

Project	Phase	Cost	Funding Source
Lake Lery Marsh Creation Phase 1	Complete	\$8,000,000	CIAP
Oyster Reef Shoreline Protection	Complete	\$600,000	CRCL/CPRA/NFWF
MRGO Navigational Aids	Complete	\$15,000	SBPG
Kayak Navigational Aids	Complete	\$5,000	SBPG
Living Shoreline	Complete	\$22,000,000	CPRA
Violet Canal North Levee Alignment	Complete	\$4,000,000	CPRA/CDBG/HMGP
Black Mangrove Planting	Complete	\$15,000	SBPG/Orvis/AFFTA/Private
Violet Harbor of Refuge	Complete	\$2,000,000	CDBG
Coermann to Verret Reforestation	Complete	\$10,000	LPBF/SBPG
Rec. Fishing (Delacroix Pier/Restroom)	Complete	\$1,000,000	SBPG
Rec. Fishing (Delacroix Hoist/Dry Dock)	Complete	\$1,000,000	SBPG
Lake Fortune Oyster Cutch	Complete	\$2,500,000	LDWF/NRDA
Violet Canal Maintenance Dredging	Complete	\$280,000	CPRA
Marine Debris Removal and Dredging	Complete	\$300,000	SBPG
Bayou Bush Marine Debris Removal	Complete	\$20,000	SBPG
Bayou Terre aux Boeufs Ridge Phase 1	Complete	\$2,000,000	SBPG/CPRA
BUDMAT Lake Lery Feasibility Study	Complete	\$300,000	SBPG
Nunez Fisheries Workforce Devt.	Ongoing	\$325,000	RESTORE
Lake Lery Marsh Creation Phase 2	Ongoing	\$3,000,000	CIAP/RESTORE
North Breton Island Restoration	Ongoing	\$72,000,000	NRDA/DOI
Bayou Terre Aux Boeufs Ridge Phase 2	Ongoing	\$5,200,000	SBPG/NFWF/RESTORE
Paris Road Streetscape	Ongoing	\$800,000	RESTORE
St. Bernard Pump Station Repairs	Ongoing	\$4,000,000	CPRA
Violet Canal Siphon Repairs	Ongoing	\$1,000,000	CPRA
Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline	Ongoing	\$57,719,731	CPRA/RESTORE
Lake Borgne Marsh Creation	Ongoing	\$127,000,000	CPRA/NRDA
Golden Triangle Marsh Creation	Ongoing	\$54,550,330	CPRA/RESTORE
Lake Lery Marsh Creation Phase 3	Eng/Design	\$21,699,000	SBPG/TBD
East Bank Sediment Pipe, Prelim. Design	Eng/Design	\$1,000,000	SBPG/CPRA
Bayou La Loutre Ridge Restoration	Eng/Design	\$31,000,000	CWPPRA/CPRA
East Delacroix Marsh Creation	Eng/Design	\$39,000,000	CWPPRA/CPRA
North Delacroix Marsh Creation	Eng/Design	\$35,500,000	CWPPRA/CPRA
Bayou Terre aux Boeufs Ridge Phase 3	Eng/Design	\$3,300,000	SBPG/TBD
Bomer Island Creation Prelim. Design	Eng/Design	\$650,000	SBPG
Isle au Pitre Restoration	Eng/Design	\$3,500,000	NRDA
Idenos Community Archive at Nunez	Eng/Design	\$100,000	RESTORE
Reggio Marsh Creation	Eng/Design	\$30,000,000	CWPPRA/CPRA
Ducks Unlimited Restoration Project	Planning	\$1,100,000	NAWCA/DU/MF/SBPG
Recreational Fishing Pier (Shell Beach)	Planning	\$1,374,000	SBPG/RESTORE
Rec. Fishing Pier/Market (Hopedale)	Planning	\$1,000,000	SBPG/RESTORE
Point Aux Marchettes Shoreline Protect.	Planning	\$46,000,000	NRDA
Chandeleur Islands Maint. & Reveg.	Planning	\$3,500,000	NRDA
40 Arpent Bike Bath Bridge	Planning	\$500,000	RESTORE
Louisiana Oyster Cutch Phase 2	Planning	\$3,058,080	NRDA
Chandeleur Islands Restoration	Planning	\$8,000,000	CPRA/NRDA

Executive Summary

After years of planning and engineering/design, several largescale coastal restoration projects were under construction in 2021. The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) began constructing the Lake Borgne Marsh Creation project (\$127 million), the largest marsh creation project ever constructed in Louisiana. The agency also broke ground on the Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project (\$54.5 million). At the federal level, the US Department of the Interior (DOI) has continued dredging activities as part of the North Breton Island Restoration project (\$72 million).

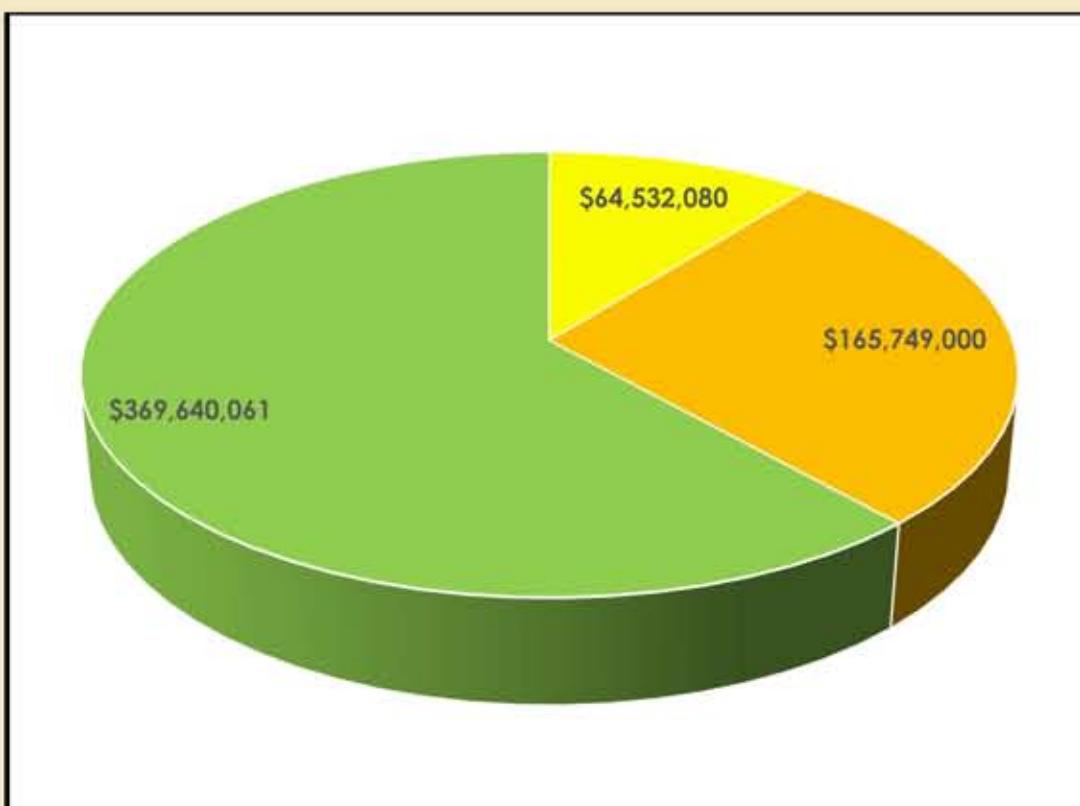
Other critical largescale restoration projects were funded in 2021. The Deepwater Horizon Regionwide Trustee Implementation Group (TIG), which oversees Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) funding on behalf of the Gulf Coast region, advanced two projects in 2021. The TIG allocated \$8 million for the purpose of evaluating design alternatives, completing engineering/design, and preparing construction bid documents for a largescale Chandeleur Islands restoration project. Additionally, the TIG allocated \$35.8 million for the purpose of constructing thirty (30) acres of oyster reef at five locations, including the Biloxi Marsh. Both projects are scheduled to begin in 2022.

St. Bernard Parish Government (SBPG) also engaged in a wide range of construction, engineering/design, and planning activities throughout the year. The Lake Lery Marsh Creation project (Phase 2, \$3 million) is currently under construction and the Paris Road Streetscape Enhancement (\$800,000) and Bayou Terre aux Boeufs Ridge Restoration (Armoring Phase 2, \$5.2 million) projects will be going up for construction bid in early 2022. The parish has also been closely coordinating with CPRA to complete the preliminary design for the Eastbank Sediment Pipeline project, an effort that will resume during the upcoming year. Finally, SBPG is in the process of updating its Coastal Strategy Document, the parish's local coastal master plan.



I. 2021: Recap and Highlights

Completed and Projected Total Expenditures by Activity Phase



Planning
 Engineering/Design
 Construction (Completed or Ongoing)

II. 2022: Vision for Restoring the Coast

Many coastal activities in St. Bernard Parish have rapidly advanced over the past two years. In 2017, only 6% of all projects featured in SBPG's Coastal Strategy Document had been completed, were under construction, or were actively being implemented. This figure only slightly increased to 8% by 2019. However, 62% of all projects have now been completed, are in the construction phase, or are actively being implemented. In monetary terms, this represents approximately \$350 million of completed or ongoing work on the coastal activities identified in the Master Project List (please see page 9).

The projects that will be completed over the next few years include several largescale restoration projects that SBPG and parish residents have been promoting for decades. Additional largescale marsh creation, ridge restoration, and barrier island restoration projects are also currently being designed, and SBPG is in the process of developing a permanent sediment pipeline corridor to provide the materials needed to complete these projects as efficiently as possible. Finally, SBPG has been exploring the possibility of fortifying the existing Hurricane Storm Damage and Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) around St. Bernard Parish by strategically constructing additional levees around vulnerable coastal communities.

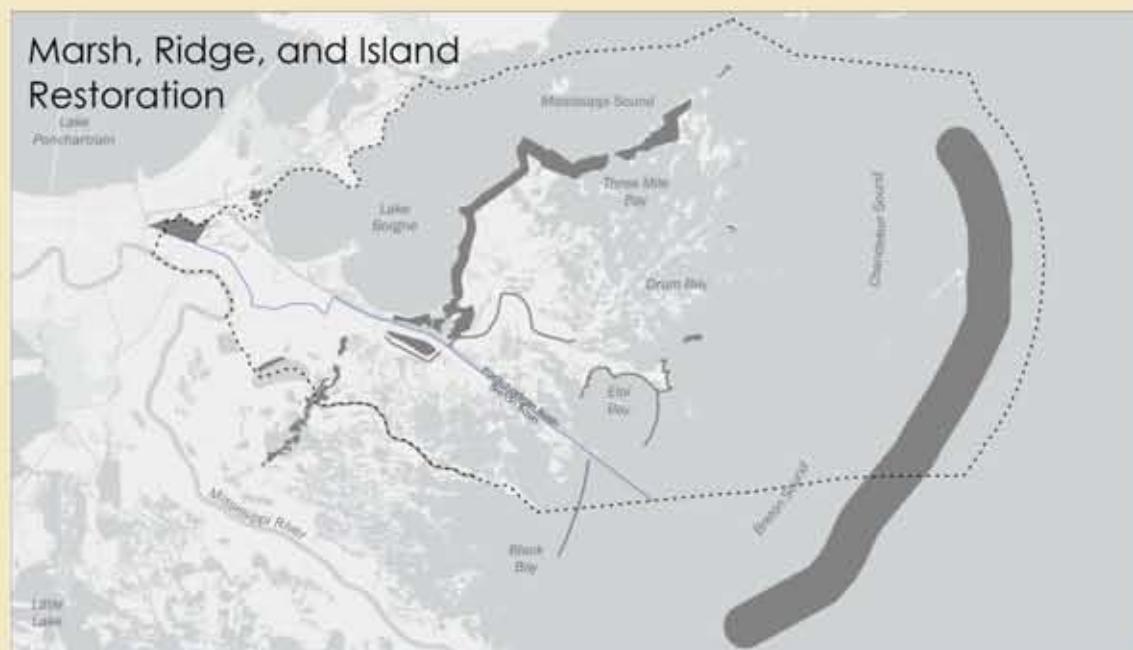
SBPG remains sensitive to residents' concerns regarding the two proposed largescale sediment diversions and how those projects might impact the natural environment, commercial and recreational fishing industries, and local economy. The parish has been submitting public comments in opposition of both mid-basin largescale sediment diversions based on the above concerns and general uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of such projects. SBPG will continue monitoring the permitting process for each project and will take every opportunity to promote the parish's interest in coastal restoration projects that enhance the natural environment while also reducing the risk associated with storm surge.



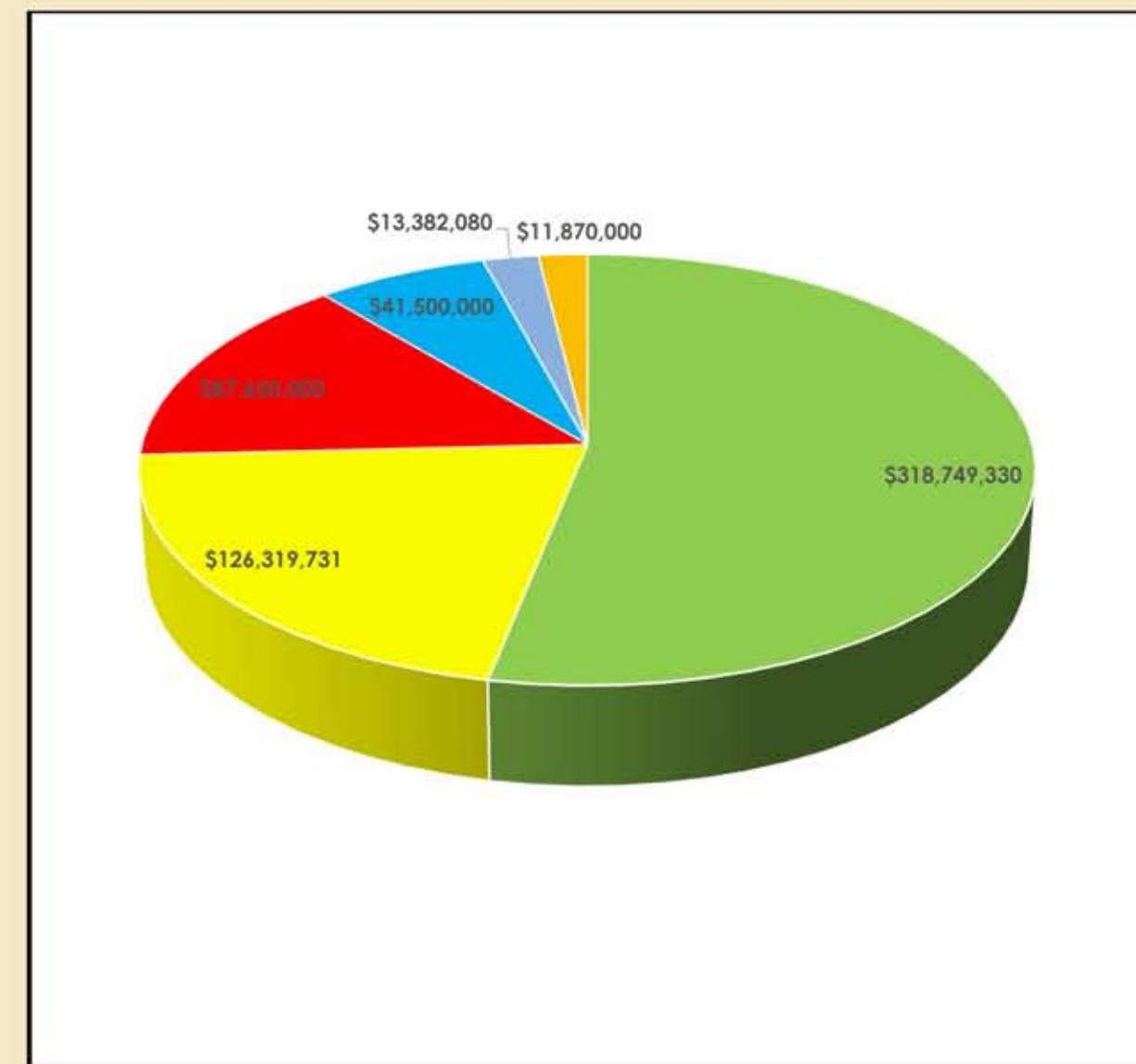
Planning

- **January 2021:** SBPG partnered with Ducks Unlimited, the Meraux Foundation, Delacroix Corporation, and others to secure over \$1 million to design a swamp restoration project in the Central Wetlands Unit and a hydrologic restoration project in Caernarvon. The project is expected to be designed and constructed in 2022.
- **June 2021:** SBPG initiated the process of updating its Coastal Strategy Document. The plan will be completed in early 2022.
- **June 2021:** SBPG submitted public comments in opposition of the Mid-Barataria Largescale Sediment Diversion project.
- **July 2021:** SBPG submitted RESTORE Act Direct Component grant applications for the Islenos Community Archive at Nunez Community College (\$100,000), Nunez Community College Workforce Development (Phase 2) (\$100,000), and Bayou Terre aux Boeufs Ridge Restoration (Armoring Phase 2) (\$1.3 million).
- **December 2021:** SBPG submitted public comments in opposition of changing speckled trout length requirements and bag limits.

A comprehensive view of coastal restoration projects in St. Bernard Parish and vicinity



Completed and Projected Total Expenditures by Activity Type





Construction and Implementation

Construction is ongoing at the Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2) site near Delacroix
(Source: Capt. George Ricks)



- **January 2021:** DOI dredging activities at the North Breton Island Restoration project site began in September 2020 and continued throughout 2021.
- **April 2021:** SBPG and others planted approximately 900 black mangroves in the Biloxi Marsh. An additional 1,500 plants were potted in December.
- **June 2021:** SBPG hosted a public seafood market event in Hopedale. Subsequent events were held near Chalmette in July and November. Approximately 1,500 people attended the events, and commercial fishermen sold over 4,000 lb. of shrimp; 150 dozen crabs; 200 lb. of fish; and 370 dozen oysters directly to the public.
- **July 2021:** Contractors mobilized to begin dredging activities for the Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2) project. Although the project was interrupted by Hurricane Ida, dredging will resume in early 2022.
- **July 2021:** Construction began on a series of CPRA-funded pump station repairs across St. Bernard Parish.

- **August 2021:** CPRA broke ground on the Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project near the St. Bernard/Orleans parish line. This project is the first in a series of largescale marsh creation projects to be constructed in and around St. Bernard Parish.
- **September 2021:** CPRA began constructing the Lake Borgne Marsh Creation project, the largest marsh creation project ever constructed in Louisiana.

SBPG hosted three public seafood market events in 2021
(Source: Dominique Seibert)



Engineering and Design

- **January 2021 - Ongoing:** CPRA continued the engineering/design processes for the Bayou La Loutre Ridge Restoration, North Delacroix Marsh Creation, East Delacroix Marsh Creation, and Reggio Marsh Creation projects. Engineering/design for the ridge restoration project is now complete and the project will be considered for construction funding in 2022.
- **October 2021:** CPRA completed engineering/design for the Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline project. Installation of living shoreline products is expected to begin in early 2022.
- **November 2021:** SBPG completed engineering/design for the Paris Road Streetscape Enhancement project. The parish will be putting the project up for construction bid in early 2022.