LOUISIANA

Caminada Beach and Dune Increment II: Engineering & Design

This project undertakes engineering, design, land rights and permitting actions necessary for the second increment of the Caminada Beach and Dune Restoration project. The end result of this effort is a set of construction bid documents utilized in the bid process for the construction phase of Increment II. The State previously directed $40 million in surplus state funding and $30 million in Coastal Impact Assistance Program funding toward constructing Phase I of this project.

The Caminada Headland is a beach, dune, marsh, and maritime forest complex at the junction of Bayou Lafourche and the Gulf of Mexico. The project will create approximately 489 acres of beach and dune habitat; restoring approximately 8.9 additional miles (supplementing Phase 1) of beach with approximately 5.4 million cubic yards of material from an offshore submerged sand source (Ship Shoal).

A restored beach and dune system will protect sensitive landward marshes and maritime forests from erosion and saltwater influences. In addition, these beaches and dunes serve as a source of sand for nourishing islands immediately to the east and west of the project, including Grand Isle—Louisiana’s only populated barrier island. The beaches and dunes also provide storm buffering to Port Fourchon. In conjunction with other ongoing work, restoration of Caminada Headland will complete restoration of the chain of barrier islands that define Barataria Bay, consistent with the goals of the Louisiana’s Coastal Master Plan.

Once constructed, this project is expected to restore 490 acres of barrier shoreline habitat.