Funding was used to complete restoration of over 13 miles of critical beach and dune habitat at the Caminada Headland through the placement of dredged material along the footprint of the former beach. Sand fencing and planting of native vegetation was included to enhance dune stabilization. The State previously directed $30 million in surplus state funding and $40 million in Coastal Impact Assistance Program funding toward constructing Increment I of this project which was completed in 2014.

The Caminada Headland is a beach, dune, marsh, and maritime forest complex at the junction of Bayou Lafourche and the Gulf of Mexico. The Phase II work created approximately 490 acres of beach and dune habitat; restoring approximately 7.4 additional miles supplementing phase I of beach with approximately 5.4 million cubic yards of material from an offshore submerged sand source (Ship Shoal). Also included were actions to mitigate impacts to sea turtles, piping plovers, and other nesting birds.

The restored beach and dune system protects 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.

This project restored 490 acres of barrier shoreline habitat as shown above.