

Note to reader:

The *Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #6: Restore and Conserve Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitat* (RP/EA) is available for public review from December 20, 2019, to January 21, 2019. This RP/EA includes an alternative named the West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization alternative. The goals of the alternative are as follows:

1. Restore the beach by adding sand to widen the existing beach.
2. Restore the dune system and plant native vegetation to help retain sand on the dune.
3. Create a back-barrier marsh on the west end of the West Grand Terre Island to serve as a rollover platform and capture overwash sediments during episodic events. The created marsh would complement the existing marsh on the east end of the island.
4. Protect the beach nourishment and shoreline stabilization restoration efforts by constructing a rock revetment feature along Barataria Pass and Barataria Bay.

As part of fiscal year (FY) 2020 maintenance dredging of the Barataria Bay Waterway bar channel, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is authorized to and anticipates the removal of approximately 600,000 to 800,000 cubic yards of material from the bar channel (FY 2020 Barataria Bay Waterway Consistency Determination issued on August 5, 2019). This activity is authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1915, 1919, 1958, and subsequent enlargement by discretionary authority of the Lower Mississippi Valley Division Engineer in 1978. The dredging work would be conducted contingent on the availability of funds and USACE priorities.

As part of the USACE's dredging activity, the dredged material removed from the Barataria Bay Waterway bar channel would be deposited on a portion of West Grand Terre Island for barrier island restoration near the West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization alternative analyzed in this RP/EA. The USACE notified the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority just prior to the publishing of this RPEA that the dredging activity was to begin on December 19, 2019.

The placement of dredged material may affect the existing conditions of the West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization alternative analyzed in this RP/EA. To the extent the USACE's activity could result in changes to the alternative footprint or associated analysis including restoration benefits and cumulative effects, this updated information related to the West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization alternative would be addressed, as appropriate, in the Final RP/EA.