LOUISIANA

East Timbalier Island: Engineering & Design

This project will complete necessary planning analysis to determine size and scope of the project as well as engineering, design, land rights and permitting activities. The end result of this effort will be a set of construction bid documents.

East Timbalier Island is part of a barrier island chain that separates Terrebonne and Timbalier bays from the Gulf of Mexico. The island is currently comprised of two severely degraded segments; the proposed project would re-establish the historic footprint, reconnecting the two segments.

East Timbalier Island has been severely degraded due to the impacts of several strong storms, subsidence and other factors. Historically, the island served to define the seaward boundary of the eastern Terrebonne Basin estuary, reducing the transmission of Gulf waves into Terrebonne Bay. This project is critical to maintain lower wave-energy environments in eastern Terrebonne Basin, which protects fragile interior marshes and infrastructure and provides quiescent bay habitats preferred by many fish and invertebrate species. In addition, the island provides critical beach, dune, and marsh habitat in isolation from the human disturbances that typically impact many gulf coast barrier islands.

The re-establishment of a severely degraded barrier island will protect fragile marshes and provide critical habitat for Gulf Coast birds.