

Jindal Highlights \$2.7M False River Restoration Project



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BATON ROUGE, LA (NBC33) — Today, Governor Bobby Jindal highlighted a \$2.7 million restoration project to restore fisheries and water quality in False River.

The immediate priority of the False River Watershed Council is to construct a terrace for the South Flat. Part of the \$2.7 million will be used to design and construct an estimated 16-acre island using over 100,000 cubic yards of dredged sediment.

The construction of the island will help to solidify the dredged sediment and prevent re-suspension of the silts that causes turbidity problems on False River.

The project is expected to create over 3,500 feet of shoreline habitat, increase water oxygen levels and improve water clarity.

Governor Jindal said this project is important to help reestablish aquatic vegetation and water oxygen levels.

Construction is expected to start in the fall.

Funding will also help address a future project to be developed by the watershed council to address siltation issues on the north flats on False River.

The state has already been working with local officials to restore fisheries and water quality in False River. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has stocked the lake with bass, and in 2012, released 300,000 red-ear or Chinquapin.

Recently, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Point Coupee Police Jury, the local Kiwanis Club and private donors helped to construct gravel spawning beds to help the fish populations in False River.

For the first time in 20 years, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Commission opened False River to a commercial fishing season to help reduce the population of the garfish and other rough fish, such as buffalo and carp. Tens of thousands of pounds of fish have already been caught.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation has also established the False River Restoration Fund as a repository for monetary donations from individuals, groups, industry, other foundations and businesses to help restore and enhance False River and its surrounding watershed and habitat.

At the event, NRG Energy also announced the company is donating \$1 million to the False River Watershed Program.

Read our original story: [FRWC discusses efforts to restore False River](#)