

Hugh Roberts, PE  
 Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer  
 The Water Institute  
 1110 River Road S., Suite 200  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
 Email: [hroberts@thewaterinstitute.org](mailto:hroberts@thewaterinstitute.org)

**EDUCATION**

University of Notre Dame	Notre Dame, IN	Civil Engineering	MS, 2004
University of Notre Dame	Notre Dame, IN	Civil Engineering	BS, 2002

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Climate and flood resilience, climate change-driven economic, societal, and environmental risks.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

The Water Institute	Senior Vice President/Chief Operating Officer	2019–Present
Arcadis	Urban and Coastal Resiliency Practice Leader, Numerical Modeling Practice Leader, Project Engineer and Associate Project Manager	2007–2018

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

- Professional Engineering, LA

**NOTABLE PROJECTS**

<b>Team Leader/Louisiana Watershed Initiative</b> <i>Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority</i> The development of model guidelines and standards for compound flooding effects (pluvial, fluvial and coastal) in the flood transition zone. The model guidelines in the compound flooding transition zone include consideration of model integration (e.g., coupling HEC-RAS and ADCIRC), selection of coincident events for simulation, and the creation of the joint probability framework.	Current
<b>Coastal and Compound Risk Lead/Combined River Basins Flood Studies</b> <i>Texas General Land Office</i> The initial phases of the program, working with USACE to develop standard operating procedures for HEC-HMS and HEC-RAS model development and flood recurrence	Current

analysis procedures. Technical advisor supporting coastal and compound flood model development and flood mitigation project evaluation.

**Project Manager/2023 Coastal Louisiana Master Plan Model Improvement** Current

*Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority*

Coordinating aspects of flood risk for the 2023 Coastal Master Plan. This effort includes flood hazard modeling for current and future conditions, with and without project implementation scenarios, as well as coordinating with other coastal flood risk model users to create a single set of models to be used across studies within the state.

**Flood Risk and Mitigation Team Lead/2012 and 2017 Coastal Louisiana Master Plans** 2010–2017

*Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority*

development of both the 2012 and 2017 Coastal Master Plans. The master plans are the foundation of the state’s 50-year, \$50 billion-dollar plan for coastal restoration and protection, as well as determine the funding for annual spending in the state.

**Technical Advisor/Resilient Houston** 2018–2020

*Rockefeller Foundation, The City of Houston*

The Institute oversaw a multidisciplinary team of experts in the development of a comprehensive resilience strategy for Houston. A companion document, *Living with Water Houston*, was developed concurrently, bringing together Dutch, Louisiana, national, and local experts to develop flood risk reduction recommendations at the regional, city, bayou, and neighborhood scales.