

RESTORE ACT  
**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR LOUISIANA (LA-COE)**  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2023

# Updates from LA-COE

## **New Members**

LA-COE is excited to announce new members to the team, including Eva Windhoffer and Brittany Jensen. Eva Windhoffer is the new coordinator of LA-COE and is a coastal wildlife ecologist with The Water Institute. Eva received a B.S. in natural resources management from the University of Maryland and an M.Sc. in marine and environmental biology from Nicholls State University. Eva joined The Water Institute as a coastal ecologist to support avian projects along the Gulf coast.

Brittany Jensen serves as the new data manager for both LA-COE and The Water Institute. Brittany received a B.S. in biology with an emphasis in marine and freshwater biology from The University of Texas at Austin and her M.Sc. in marine biology and ecology from the University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. In her role as data manager, Brittany is working to create a streamlined approach to data management.



**BRITTANY JENSEN**  
Data Manager



**EVA WINDHOFFER**  
Avian Ecologist

## Newsletter Access/Website Update

Current and archived newsletters can now be accessed from the LA-COE webpage at <https://thewaterinstitute.org/la-coe/newsletters>



## Events and Engagement

### Award Closeout Webinar

On **April 19**, The Water Institute hosted an Award Closeout Webinar. The purpose of this webinar was to provide RFP2 subrecipients with a timeline for RFP2 award closeout and to provide a discussion about the data management of projects. The video recording of this webinar is available on the LA-COE RFP2 Resources for Subrecipients site: <https://dev.thewaterinstitute.org/la-coe/funded-research-rfp-2/resources-for-rfp2-subrecipients>



## LA-COE Data and File Management BEST PRACTICES

October 2021

### 1. Introduction

According to the LA-COE Standard Operating Procedure Version 3 (SOP V3) that can be found [here](#), "All data, collected data products, and metadata must be made publicly available within one year after submission of the final report." Therefore, to assist the researchers with managing their data, producing metadata, and supporting the inclusion of their data into a public repository, the following best practices are provided. The LA-COE team will be made available to researchers via email ([la-coe@thewaterinstitute.org](mailto:la-coe@thewaterinstitute.org)) or webinar, when requested, to help answer specific project-related questions and help expand the data management plan from their proposal to a fully functioning plan for the funded project. The following table (Table 1) from SOP V3 lists the responsibilities of research subrecipients and the related support by the LA-COE team.

Table 1. LA-COE team support and the research subrecipient responsibility (SOP V3).

Research Subrecipient Responsibility	LA-COE team Support
Plan to manage data	Support research subrecipient in answering questions in the data management plan checklist.
Collect, generate, acquire, and organize data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that researchers collect, record, and organize information required to complete metadata records</li> <li>Assist researchers in implementing data management best practices for their data and projects</li> </ul>
Create metadata	Provide information and links about metadata creation tools, specifically related to proper formats and information that should be included
Plan data "backup" storage strategies	Identify possible data "backup" storage strategies and tools
Long-term data storage/archival	Identify possible long-term data storage options

### 2. Backup Strategies

Research products from projects funded by the RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana (LA-COE) need to be securely stored during the development stage and upon project completion for archival purposes. Secure storage requires that the products, such as data, metadata, and interpretative documents, must remain accessible and suffer no loss of fidelity over time. The main objective of secure storage is to prevent data loss through user behavior or equipment failure. The most effective method of secure



## RESTORE ACT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR LOUISIANA FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT

Due within 30 days of the close of the award

Project Title:

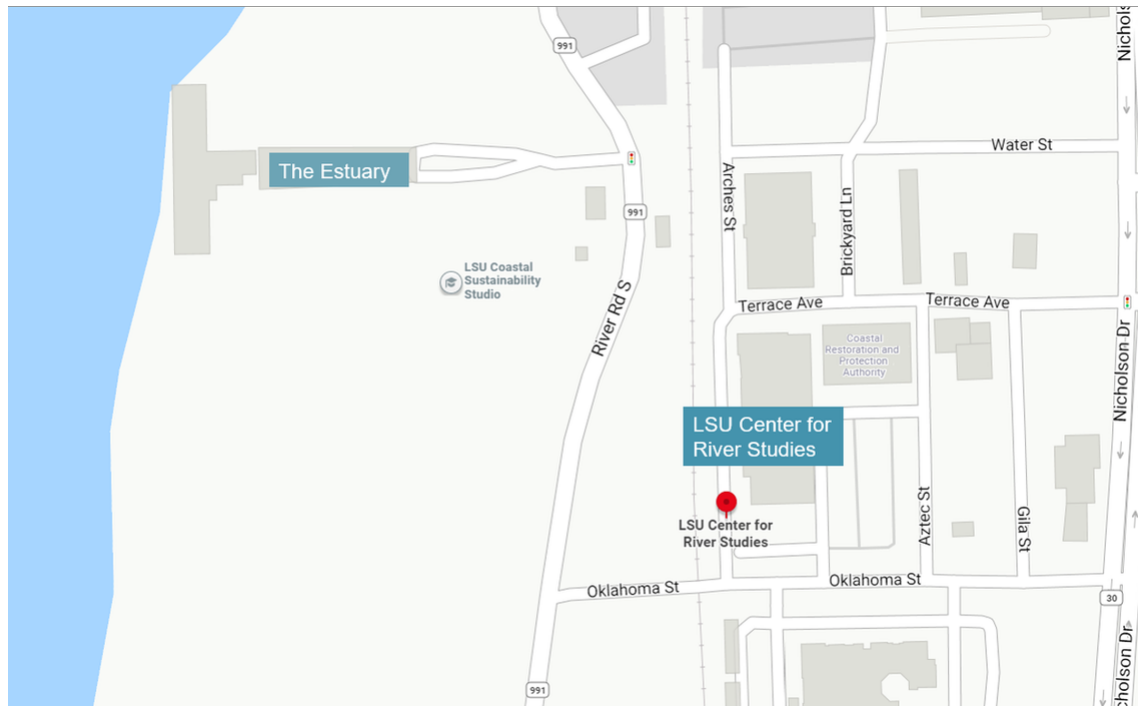
Principal Investigator:	
Principal Investigator Institution:	
Co-Principal Investigator:	
Co-Principal Investigator Institution:	
Co-Principal Investigator:	
Co-Principal Investigator Institution:	
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## Co-production of Science Workshop

The NOAA RESTORE Science Program<sup>3</sup>, RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana, and Louisiana Sea Grant will host a workshop focused on how to plan and conduct research that is driven by the needs of resource managers and fully integrates managers into the research process. This practice known as co-production can lead to research findings and products that better align with the decisions resource managers face.

The workshop will take place **May 3 - 4, 2023** at the LSU Center for River Studies in Baton Rouge, LA (see map below). The workshop, *Using Co-Production to Engage Stakeholders and Create Effective Science-to-Management Solutions*, will bring together natural resource managers and academic researchers to learn about science co-production and discuss best practices to improve science for natural resource management in Louisiana.

This workshop will provide ample opportunity for networking with researchers, NGOs, science communicators, natural resource managers, and funding agency representatives with an interest in building resilience to coastal flooding across Louisiana.



## State of the Coast 2023

LA-COE will hold a session at the 2023 State of the Coast conference in New Orleans, Louisiana on **May 31 - June 2**. The session, *RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana: Highlights of funded research, and their support for the LA Coastal Master Plan*, will span a broad array of interdisciplinary themes that are funded under LA-COE RFP2. Coastal scientists from Louisiana-based institutions (e.g., universities and non-profit) will highlight current research findings under RFP2, including: 1) a presentation by Kyrsten Boswell (graduate student of Dr. Giulio Mariotti, Louisiana State University) on marsh edge erosion for current and future scenarios that contributes to the understanding of coastal wetland loss due to erosion in Louisiana and worldwide; 2) a presentation by Dr. Jonathan Willis (Nicholls State University) on the socio-ecological attributes of Louisiana's ridge landforms which will provide valuable insights for the state's coastal ridge restoration; and 3) a presentation by Dr. Robert Habans (The Data Center) on community migration in response to flood risk and disaster events in coastal Louisiana will highlight the implications for forecasting future migration. Also in this session, David Lindquist (CPRA) will present on how LA-COE funded research findings are being used to support the implementation of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan.

## All-Hands Meeting

The next All-Hands Meeting has been scheduled to take place on **August 1** at The Water Institute in Baton Rouge, LA. The morning meeting will include partners from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), and RFP2 subrecipients will present their work. Lunch will be provided at noon. Registration links and agendas will be sent out to

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# Reminders for PI's

## RFP 1 Datasets

All submitted RFP1 Datasets are now available online and can be accessed at <https://thewaterinstitute.org/la-coe/funded-research>

## RFP 2 Publications Notification of Dissemination

You must notify the LA-COE Deputy Director 60 days prior to disseminating any information about your funded project so that LA-COE and CPRA are aware. Please email [LA-COE@thewaterinstitute.org](mailto:LA-COE@thewaterinstitute.org) with the information (e.g., abstracts, papers, seminars, media releases, etc.) you plan to disseminate. CPRA has been fantastic at getting back to LA-COE and PIs ASAP.

## Standard Language for Acknowledgements

"This study was supported by the U.S. Department of the Treasury through the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority's Center of Excellence Research Grants Program under the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) (Award No. 1 RCEGR260007-01-00). The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Treasury"

# PI Reference Guide

The LA-COE developed the PI Reference Guide to help Principal Investigators (PIs) quickly obtain essential information pertaining to LA-COE and helpful material for inclusion in products such as reports, manuscripts, presentations, and archived data.

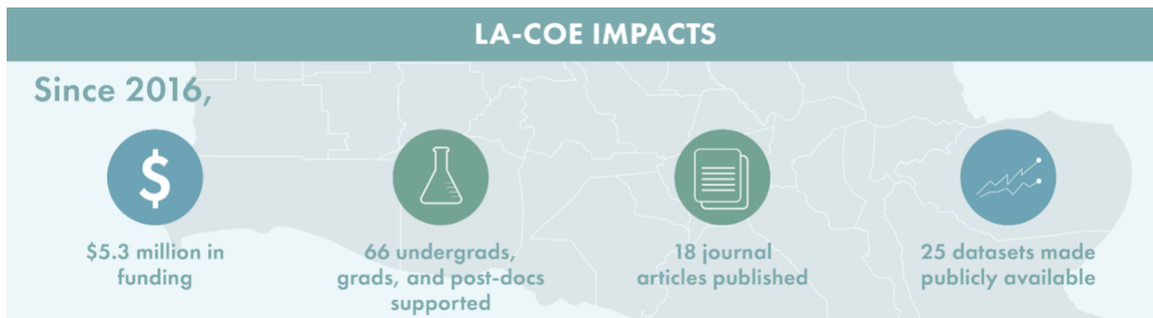
View the entire PI Reference Guide [here](#).

Reporting	Period	PPR #	Date Due
Semi-annual PPR#1	August 2021– January 2022	1	February 28, 2022
Semi-annual PPR#2	February 2022– July 2022	2	August 31, 2022
Semi-annual PPR#3	August 2022– January 2023	3	February 28, 2023
Semi-annual PPR#4	February 2023– July 2023	4	August 31, 2023
Final report	August 2021– August 2023	N/A	August 31, 2023
Data available	Within 1 year after final report	N/A	July 31, 2024

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# Impacts



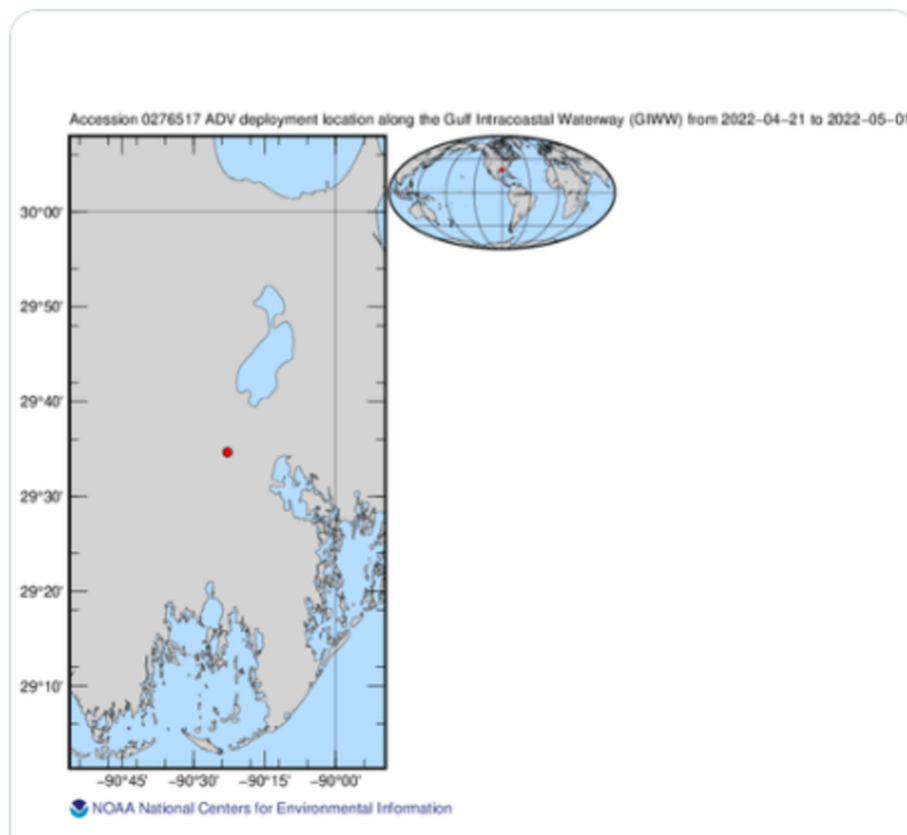
# Tweet of the Quarter



**The Water Institute** @TheH2OInstitute · 5s

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Dr. Giulio Mariotti's [@mariotti\\_lab](#) dataset from [#LouisianaCOE](#) funded research is now available. His work combines numerical modeling and field measurements to evaluate how salinity and river inputs influence marsh edge erosion. More here [bit.ly/3nwvnGP](https://bit.ly/3nwvnGP)

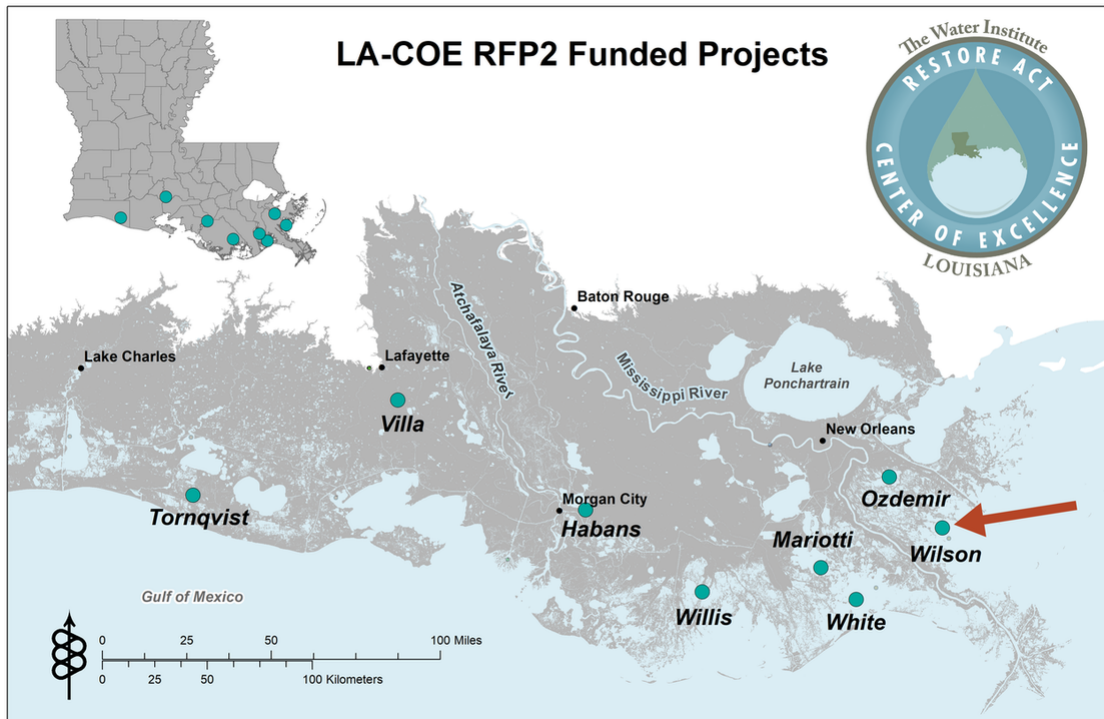


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Remember to use #LouisianaCOE with other optional additions of #Coast #Science #AppliedResearch in your posts.

## Funded Research



## Project Highlight

### Subsurface Stratigraphic Controls on Subsidence and Carbon Sequestration in Mississippi Delta Diversion Receiving Basins

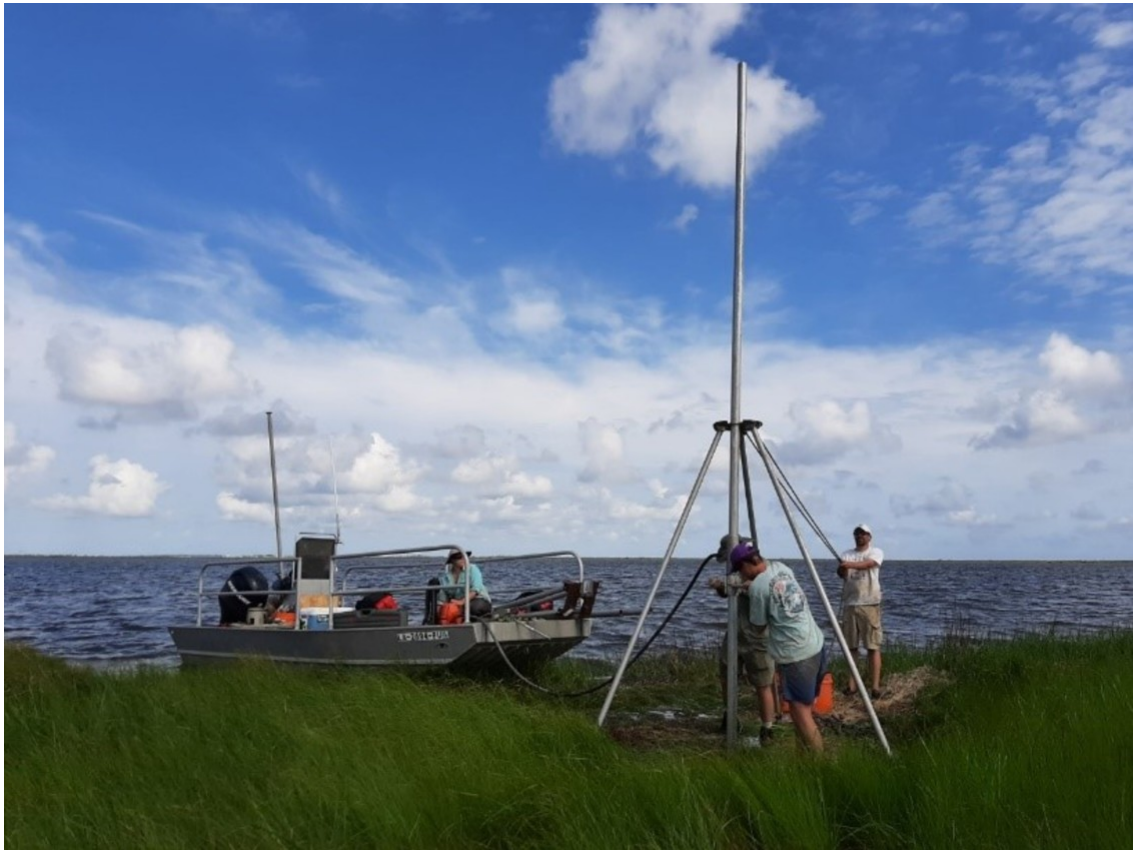
**Carol Wilson, Assistant Professor, Department of Geology & Geophysics, Louisiana State University**

In Louisiana, we often hear the term ‘subsidence’ - but what does it mean, and what processes drive it? Subsidence refers to the land surface sinking, which in deltas exacerbates global sea-level rise and can cause drowning of the landscape if not filled in with new sediment. Louisiana is ground zero for some of the greatest subsidence—and thus relative sea-level rise—rates in the world. Drs. Wilson, Xu, Tornqvist, Chamberlain, and Sanks at LSU, Tulane, and Wageningen University (Netherlands) have teamed up to

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radiochemistry ( $^{210}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ ), and optically stimulated luminescence (OSL), these researchers are dating subsurface sediments and locations of previous channels that existed hundreds to thousands of years ago (called paleochannels), refining our understanding of deltaic geomorphic evolution and what can be expected in the future as coastal mitigation measures like the Mid-Barataria Diversion come online.

Attached below are images of field work from this project. (From top to bottom) Cores up to 8 m depth were extracted from marsh and shallow bay environments in Mid-Barataria basin using a vibracoring unit and hand auger. Dr. Kelly Sanks (Tulane) and grad student Mike Piorkowski extract an auger core on the marsh. Dr. Carol Wilson (LSU) and grad student Mike Piorkowski extract a vibracore in a shallow bay. Dr. Liz Chamberlain analyzes the sediment type extracted from an auger core.



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