

# RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana (LA-COE) Quarterly Newsletter



MARCH 2022

## Updates from LA-COE

### FLRACEP Annual Meeting

In January, LA-COE's chief scientist Alyssa Dausman

attended the Florida Restore Act Center of Excellence Program (FLRACEP) Virtual Annual All-Hands Meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida. One representative from each Center of Excellence was invited to attend. The first day of the program involved a broad overview of FLRACEP completed projects, Center of Excellence updates on research, and a panel discussion to identify synergies and get input on knowledge gaps and needs. On Day 2, the Gulf State Center of Excellence leads and local county leaders presented their projects and led a brainstorming session on common research and management issues.



### LA-COE Semi-Annual Webinar

LA-COE will host its next semi-annual webinar on April 20, 2022, from 3-4:30 p.m. At this webinar, LA-COE will present the data management policy and provide training on data repositories and digital object identifiers (DOIs). LA-COE will also introduce Christian Ariza-Porras, data architect for The Water Institute, as LA-COE's data manager.

### Gulf of Mexico Conference 2022:

The LA-COE is a proud sponsor of the Gulf of Mexico Conference (GoMCon) on April 25-28, 2022. GoMCon will include over 360 presentations that serve to promote the intersection

sediment management, policy, resilience, climate impacts, science education, and emerging issues. Clinton Johnson will serve as a keynote speaker, focusing on increasing collaboration among people and organizations to address common challenges across the Gulf of Mexico.

Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards is scheduled to give opening remarks during the Opening Plenary at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 26.

In addition, the Wednesday plenary will feature a panel discussion of successful collaborations. This year's panelists are: Holly Greening, retired from the Tampa Bay National Estuary Program; Todd Davison, retired NOAA and FEMA; Brian Lezina, Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; and Kelly Lucas, University of Southern Mississippi. Lauren Alexander Augustine with the National Academies of Sciences Gulf Research Program will moderate.

Find out more and register for the conference [here](#).



### **All Hands Meeting:**

LA-COE's All Hands Meeting is coming up on August 11, 2022, so be sure to save the date! The meeting will promote collaboration and inform research progress. Stay tuned for more information!

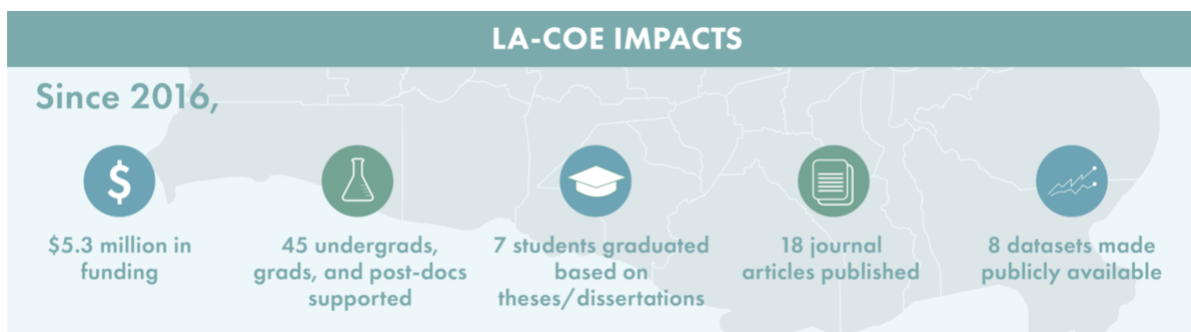
### **Quarterly Webinars Hosted By U.S. Department of The Treasury:**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury kicked off its brand-new webinar series on March 7, 2022, focused on promising practices and research that provide for the long-term health of

“Leveraging Treasury RESTORE Funds to Support Climate Resilience” and featured a presentation by Dr. Marla Nelson of the University of New Orleans on her team's research from Adapting in Place to Adaptive Migration: Designing and Facilitating an Equitable Relocation Strategy. Dr. Nelson was joined by representatives from LA-COE, The Water Institute of the Gulf and the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority who reflected on how RESTORE-funded research supports the Coastal Master Plan. For more information and to download Dr. Nelson’s report, see [here](#).



## Impacts



## Tweet of the Quarter

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



**The Water Institute** @TheH2OInstitute · 3m



Mercedes Pinzon is an MS student studying oceanography and coastal sciences at LSU. She is researching nitrogen and phosphorus cycling in Barataria Bay with Dr. John White to help improve water quality modeling and inform sediment diversion programs. 1/2



Mercedes Pinzón

Follow @TheH2OInstitute

Remember to use #LouisianaCOE #Coast #Science #AppliedResearch in your posts.

---

## Success Metrics

There are a few remaining tasks for data management under the RFP1 cycle. According to the LA-COE Standard Operating Procedure Version 1, “All data, collected data products, and metadata must be made publicly available within two years after submission of the final report.” As we know, all RFP1 cycle projects were completed by October 31, 2020. Thus, if they haven’t done so, RFP1 principal investigators (PIs) will need to share their data location

---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

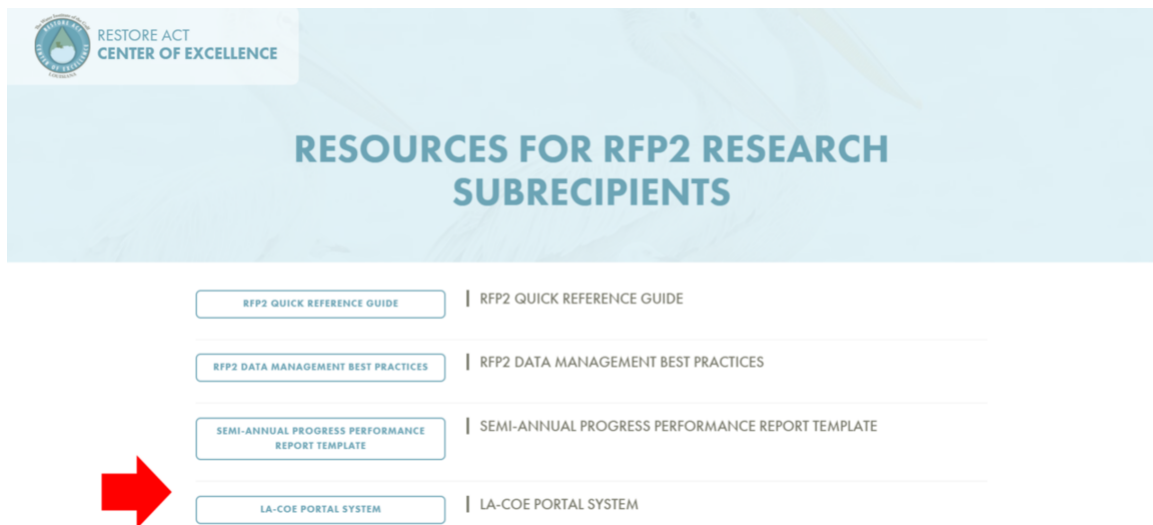
To assist PIs with producing metadata and supporting the inclusion of their data into a public repository, LA-COE developed best practices for the remaining data management work under RFP1, which can be found [here](#).

Please let us know if you have any questions. The LA-COE team will be made available via email ([la-coe@thewaterinstitute.org](mailto:la-coe@thewaterinstitute.org)) as well as short meetings.

---

## LA-COE Portal System

Reminder for PIs: For any semi-annual performance progress report, you must submit the pdf via our portal system [here](#). Don't forget to add your signature!



---

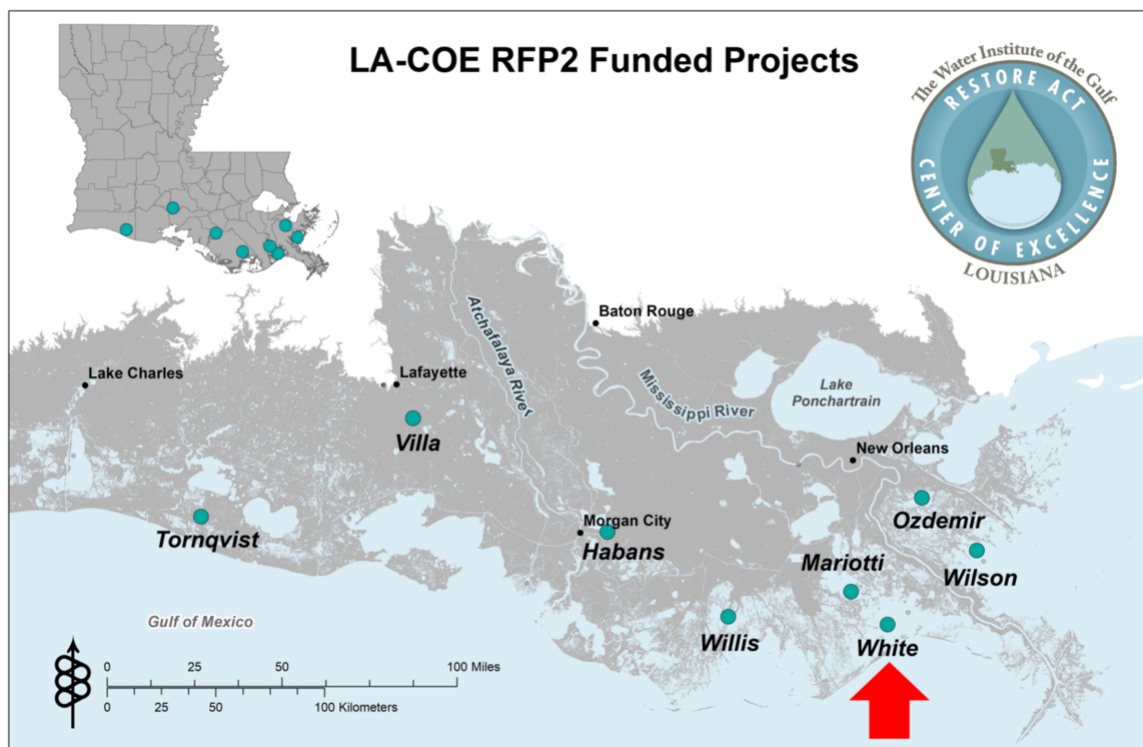
## PI Reference Guide

The LA-COE developed the PI Reference Guide to help 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](#).

---

## Funded Research



## Project Highlight

### Dynamics of Nitrogen and Phosphorus Cycling Across Barataria Basin

**John White, Professor, Department of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences, Louisiana State University**

This project will assess the nitrogen and phosphorus cycling in Barataria Basin especially as it relates to various benthic substrates that have varying organic matter content, extractable nutrients and microbial activity that can affect surface water quality. Data from this research can improve ecosystem models that are being used for freshwater diversions and for proposed sediment diversions, specifically with water quality and nutrient loading predictions.

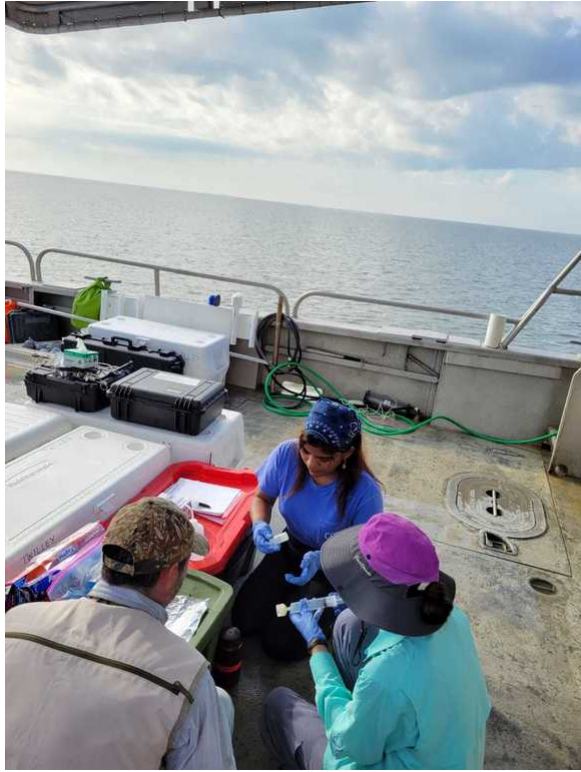
Dr. White's graduate student, Mercedes Pinzon, is working on the LA-COE funded project, "Dynamics of Nitrogen and Phosphorus Cycling Across Barataria Basin." She is pursuing an M.S. in Oceanography and Coastal Sciences at Louisiana State University. Pinzon previously received a full scholarship from the Panama government to study marine biology in the United States. Given a choice of Louisiana, Oregon, or Colorado, she chose Louisiana due to its location on the Gulf Coast and its Coastal Master Plan.

Pinzon first became interested in coastal sciences while living in Panama, which experiences lots of wetland loss. She grew concerned about her country's wetland management and

conservation and decided to learn what she could about the field and eventually return to Panama to apply her research there.

She will complete her master's degree in 2023 and plans on remaining in the United States for a few years to gain experience and determine if she wants to further her education. In the meantime, she enjoys researching the flux rate constants of nutrients in Barataria Bay and gathering valuable information that will improve future water quality modeling and inform sediment diversion programs.





---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.





---

THEWATERINSTITUTE.ORG | 225-448-2813 | INFO@THEWATERINSTITUTE.ORG

---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

**Share this email:**



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using **TrueRemove™**

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

1110 River Road S. Suite 200  
Baton Rouge, LA | 70802 US

This email was sent to .

*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

**emma**<sup>®</sup>