

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



SEPTEMBER 2022

Updates from LA-COE

All-hands Meeting:

LA-COE's All-hands Meeting occurred on August 11, 2022 on the third floor of the Center for Coastal and Deltaic Solutions. This meeting worked to promote collaboration and provided updates on RFP2 funded research projects. There were eight total presentations being presented by either PIs or graduate students. Each 10 minute presentation focused on how their current research could be used in the Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority's (CPRA) implementation of the Coastal Master Plan.

During the All-hands Meeting, there was also a short presentation on the co-production of science, a collaboration between LA-COE, the NOAA RESTORE Science Program, and the Louisiana Sea Grant.

Thank you for participating in our All-hands Meeting. We enjoyed seeing you all!





Executive Committee Meeting:

The Executive Committee Meeting occurred after the All-hands Meeting. There were 13 attendees. Melissa Baustian, Alyssa Dausman, Danielle Johnson, and Bingqing Liu were participants and head organizers of this meeting from LA-COE. Dave Lindquist and Summer Langlois were participants from CPRA. Most other participants were senior research officials from Louisiana's universities and research organizations including Brian Roberts (Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium), Giovanni Piedimonte (Tulane University), Robert Moreau (Southeastern Louisiana University), and Sam Bentley (Louisiana State University). In addition, Bridget Cotti-Rausch with the U.S. Department of Treasury also attended the Executive Committee Meeting.

The Executive Committee Meeting involved a lunch and open discussion. The meeting's goal was to gain feedback about the All-hands Meeting, review the progress towards the targets of success metrics of the RFP1 and RFP2 cycles, review the grant process for the RFP2 cycle, and begin planning for the RFP3 cycle.

Impacts

LA-COE IMPACTS

Since 2016,



\$5.3 million in funding



45 undergrads, grads, and post-docs supported



7 students graduated based on theses/dissertations



18 journal articles published



8 datasets made publicly available

Success Metrics

To support research directly relevant to implementation of Louisiana’s Coastal Master Plan, the success metrics “*Number of Coastal Master Plan projects and programs that directly utilize research findings within one year of project completion*” was tracked under RFP1 by LA-COE and CPRA. Currently, eight out thirteen RFP1 projects that were utilized in Coastal Master Plan:

- Dr. Habib: Research evaluated and provided guidance on radar-estimated rainfall data utilized in the 2023 Coastal Master Plan ICM.
- Dr. Leberg: Research used to inform potential improvements to the Coastal Master Plan Brown Pelican HSI model; Research will help inform the design of the island restoration projects.
- Dr. Hagen: Research results used to inform the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, model developed could also be used by the program.
- Dr. Kulp: Research results used to inform subsidence rate estimates for Coastal Master Plan and project design.
- Dr. Nelson: Research results used to inform CPRA’s Flood Risk and Resilience Program.
- Dr. Xu: Research used to support analyses and development of the Mid-Barataria and Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statements (though not necessarily cited in the documents).
- Dr. White: Research used to support analyses and development of the Mid-Barataria and Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statements (though not necessarily cited in the documents).
- Dr. Twilley: Research used to support analyses and development of the Mid-Barataria and Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statements (though not necessarily cited in the documents).

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

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

COE by September 30, 2022. Currently, five out of thirteen RFP1 projects completed data management plan.

Please let us know if you have any questions. The LA-COE team will be made available via email (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!



Semi-Annual Performance Progress Report

This is just a reminder of your Semi-annual Progress Performance Report (PPR) #2 to LA-COE. The reporting period for Semi-annual PPR #2 is March 1, 2022- July 31, 2022. This report is due August 31, 2022.

Please download semi-annual PPR template in LA-COE portal system ([click here](#)) or from LA-COE RFP2 webpage ([click here](#)). Once completed, please upload the report by using LA-COE portal system by 5:00 pm CST, August 31, 2022. According to the “PI Quick Reference”, the TPOC will be scheduling a short semi-annual check-in meeting (30-min) with you and CPRA Liaison by September 30, 2022.

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

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](#).

RFP2 Funded Project Spotlight

Quantifying Marsh Edge Erodibility as a Function of Salinity and Water Chemistry and Assessing Possible Effects of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Barataria Bay

Giulio Mariotti, Associate Professor, Department of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences, Louisiana State University

One of the updates given at the All-hands Meeting was presented by Dr. Giulio Mariotti.

This project works to evaluate the role of salinity and river inputs in influencing marsh edge erosion.

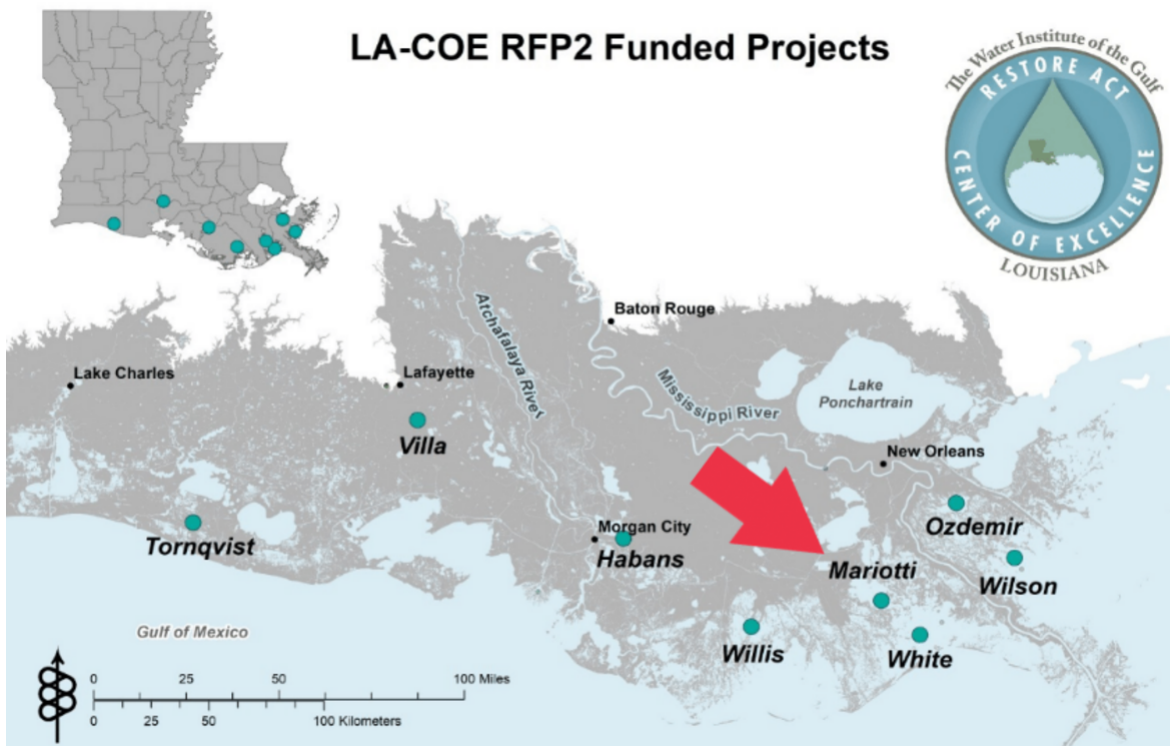
The group has hypothesized that the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway 's status of connecting the Atchafalaya River to the Barataria Basin has the potential to impact sediment dynamics and lead to faster erosion due to nutrient influx from the river.

Goals of this research include developing a better quantification of nutrient loading in the Barataria Basin and looking at long-term marsh edge erosion as opposed to short-term.

Furthermore, the project is working to quantify fluxes of water and sediment nutrients through the use of field and numerical models and improve a generalized understanding. To achieve these goals, there was a basin-wide survey conducted through different salinities. Thirty sites were sampled, totaling an approximate 3,600 measurements (which was later combined with preexisting data). The group discovered that the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway has some resemblance to a manmade river diversion, however the manmade river diversion is faster and brings in sand while this waterway is slower.

This research is relevant to the CPRA's implementation of the Coastal Master Plan as it works to improve the marsh edge erosion model and improve the quantification of sediment, nutrient, and salinity dynamics in the Barataria Basin. Furthermore, the project helps identify marshes vulnerable to marsh stripping from hurricanes and storms.

Funded Research



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[®]