ORGANIZATION ROLE

Senior Project Manager

PROJECT ROLE / FOCUS AREAS

Project management

Program management

Coastal restoration and protection planning/design

National Environmental Policy Act analysis

Stakeholder engagement

EDUCATION

BS, Chemical Engineering, Louisiana State University, 1992

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Project Management Professional, 2012

NOAA/BSEE Joint NTL 2012-G02, Marine Protected Species Observer, 2016

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana board 2019–2022, board chair 2021–2022

GARVIN PITTMAN, PMP

Senior Project Manager

As a chemical engineer by education, Garvin became involved in coastal Louisiana restoration after hurricanes Katrina and Rita when he was doing recovery work in New Orleans for then-Shaw. As that work was winding down, he was asked to transition to work as the operations manager for the state's Coastwide Reference Monitoring Systems (CRMS) program. During his seven years managing the CRMS program, Garvin also performed coastal wetland vegetation damage assessments in the wake of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. From this, Garvin transitioned to four years managing Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) projects for the state where he was responsible for up to 32 projects at any given time.

Garvin's experience includes a wide range of coastal restoration and protection projects and programs including feasibility analysis, engineering & design, construction management and development of restoration plans and environmental assessments for Natural Resource Damage Assessment projects.

Before joining The Water Institute, Garvin was a director at C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates where he served as a senior project manager and the coastal practice lead. While there, Garvin served as project manager for projects like the Queen Bess Island Restoration and the development of two Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessments for a total of eight projects in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022–Present: Senior Project Manager, The Water Institute

2017–2022: Director/Environmental Specialist, C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, L.L.C.

2005–2017: Operations Manager, APTIM/CBI Environmental & Infrastructure/Shaw E&I

2002–2005: Process Engineer, Project Engineer, Production Manager, Oremet Primary Aluminum

1997–1998: Production Manager, Plastatech Engineering/Duralast Roofing

1992–1997: Operations Engineer, Nan Ya Plastics

SELECTED PROJECTS

Project Manager/Coastal Carbon Program. *The Water Institute. (2022–2024).* Assists technical staff and external partners on a portfolio of projects for public and private partners, with the goal enabling a viable carbon market for Louisiana's coastal wetlands. This includes combining research into accreditation frameworks with five interconnected scientific disciplines that are reducing accreditation barriers, improving accuracy with respect to carbon sequestration rates and permanence, and reducing costs of monitoring.

Program Manager/Partnership for Our Working Coast - Nature Based Solutions Living Lab. *The Water Institute. (2022–2024).* Program Manager. Program that combines private funding, with public, private, academic, and non-profit partners to create and fund a living lab in the vicinity of Port Fourchon, Louisiana. The living lab consists of the many existing and planned nature-based solutions around the port and an existing laboratory station, and will create a competitive research grant program, an information hub, and an observation platform. Water Institute staff are working with partners to scope and create the grant program and information hub and are performing a social benefit analysis of artificial reefs in the project area.

CWPPRA Program Management. *CBI Environmental Structure. (2013–2017).* Contract Project Manager. Pittman managed a staff of up to four contracted project managers that were responsible for up to thirty-two Coastal Wetland Planning Protection and Restoration Act projects at any given time. Their responsibilities included financial management and forecasting of each project for input into CPRA's Annual Plan as well as shepherding these projects through the design and construction phases. Pittman and his team became familiar with many of CPRA's financial systems and developed a firm understanding of CPRA's management philosophies and policies.

Coastwide Reference Monitoring Systems. *Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure.* (*2006–2013*). Project Manager. Managed operations, logistics, training, and financial performance of the program that included five regional field offices with up to 45 field scientists and technicians and over 450 remotely located, multi-parameter CRMS and project-specific monitoring stations. At the time Pittman assumed leadership of this program, only half of the stations were online. Due, in part to his leadership, the CRMS program has become the most successful and comprehensive coastal monitoring program in existence.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment. *Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure. (2011–2014*). Team Lead. Served as the State of Louisiana's representatives during field data and sample collection activities to determine injury to coastal wetland vegetation resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. His responsibilities included training and management of up to five teams of scientists and a QA officer, coordination with Federal and Responsible Party management and staff, and financial and administrative control of this seasonal effort. The results of the Coastal Wetland Vegetation component of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment, associated with the Deepwater Horizon incident, directly contributed to the $20.8 billion settlement between the trustees and responsible parties.

BA-202 Queen Bess Island Restoration. *Fenstermaker & LA TIG. (2017–2020).* Project Manager. This project was the state of Louisiana's first ever project implemented solely for the purpose of increasing nesting and brooding habitat for colonial waterbirds. This project provided a variety of vegetation growth and nesting substrates, including a 7-acre unvegetated, upland tern/skimmer habitat platform topped with crushed limestone in Cell 3, scrub-shrub in Cells 2 and 3, and left existing black mangrove and marsh grasses in Cell 1. A tidal exchange point in Cell 1 promotes/enhances fish access in this cell. Breakwaters were installed on the island's northeast side to reduce potential scour at the tidal exchange point and the southwest side to dissipate wave energy, providing young birds with a calm water environment. This project also included bird ramps along the rock containment dike to facilitate young birds' access to water around the island.

ME-18 Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization. *CPRA, LDWFI the National Marine Fisheries Service, and HDR.* Project Manager. Managed the design, funding request and construction bid process for a project to install 3.5 miles of lightweight aggregate core breakwaters along the gulf shoreline of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, benefitting 450 acres. This project completed construction in 2019. Pittman continued to work to benefit the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge by managing two projects on behalf of the Cameron Parish Police Jury to extend the breakwaters for an additional 2 miles, benefitting an additional 300 acres.