

Thursday, January 20

- 8:15 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 **Welcome and Introduction**
Overview of Day One
- Kenny Carothers, CERP, Program Co-Chair
President/CEO, Carothers Ecological Services, LLC, Austin
- Brandon M. Tuck, Esq., Program Co-Chair
Vinson & Elkins, Houston
- 9:00 **Overview of Texas Wetlands**
How Restoration Activities Have Helped to Increase Resilience
- Matt Stahman, PWS, Director of Regulatory
Resource Environmental Solutions, Houston
- 10:00 **Update from USACE Fort Worth and Galveston Districts**
What Are the Top Three Things Regulators Would Like Applicants to Keep in Mind During the Permit Evaluation Period? What Practices Could the Consulting Community Adopt that Would Improve Wetland Delineations and Permit Applications?
- Robert Esenwein, CEP, Professional Environmental Specialist
Stantec, Austin
- 10:45 Networking Break
- 11:00 **Regulatory Takings**
Recent Developments in Wetlands Regulation Under the Takings Clause
- Elizabeth E. Mack, Esq.
Locke Lord, Dallas
- 11:45 **The Endangered Species Act**
Thinking Through ESA Section 7, General Condition 18, and the Central Texas Mussel Species
- Brad Littrell, Aquatic Ecologist and Project Manager
BIO-WEST, Inc., Austin
- Brooke M. Marcus, Esq.
Nossaman, Austin
- 12:30 Lunch Break (on your own)
- 1:45 **The Pendulum Swings Back**
How NEPA's Regulations Are Changing, and What It Means for You
- Melissa M. Fontenot, PWS, President
Cypress Environmental Consulting, Houston
- Brandon M. Tuck, Esq., Program Co-Chair
Vinson & Elkins, Houston
- 2:45 **Incorporating the Human Element**
Creating a Balance Between Rehabilitating Ecological Function and Incorporating the Human Element in Urban Projects
- Ginny King, Natural Capital Program Director
Stantec, Austin
- 3:30 Networking Break

Thursday, January 20

- 3:45 **Application of Wetland Technical Criteria to Mitigation Projects Post-Restoration in the Galveston District**
Lessons Learned from the Gulf Coastal Plains Wetland Mitigation Bank
- Pamela Fetterman, Founder, Principal Scientist and
Managing Member
ecoGENESIS, Sarasota, FL
- 4:30 **Environmental Justice**
Overview of the Origins of the Concept of Environmental Justice and its Importance in NEPA Compliance; How Do Environmental Justice Considerations Arise During NEPA Compliance? Three Case Studies: The Hardy Toll Road at IH 610 (Houston), the IH30/IH35 Interchange in Downtown Fort Worth, and Donaldsonville to the Gulf Flood Damage Reduction Feasibility Study in Southeast Louisiana
- Robert Esenwein, CEP, Professional Environmental
Specialist
Stantec, Austin
- 5:15 Adjourn to Private Networking Reception Sponsored by:



Please take the time to complete a survey and let us know how we did! Access it here:



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Password = wetlands

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TEXAS WETLANDS

Resilience, Restoration & Nature-Based Solutions



January 20-21, 2022 • JW Marriott by the Galleria • Houston

Friday, January 21

- 8:15 Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 **Welcome Back**
Overview of Day Two

Kenny Carothers, CERP, Program Co-Chair
President/CEO, Carothers Ecological Services, LLC, Austin

Brandon M. Tuck, Esq., Program Co-Chair
Vinson & Elkins, Houston
- 9:00 **Remote Site Visits**
The Nuts and Bolts of Data Aggregation, Manipulation, and Presentation; Using Data and Tools to Better Serve the Scientists' Needs

William T. Whitehead, PhD, Drone Project Coordinator, Cultural Resource Specialist
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Albuquerque, NM
- 10:00 Networking Break
- 10:15 **Waters of the US**
Legal Update

Paulina Williams, Esq.
Baker Botts, Austin
- 11:15 **An Overview of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study**
What It Means for the Future of Texas Coastal Resources and Wetlands

Leslie Hollaway, CEO and Owner
Hollaway Environmental + Communications Services, Houston

Dianna Ramirez, Upper Coast Regional Manager of Coastal Field Operations
Texas General Land Office, La Porte

Connor Stokes, ENV SP, Communications Specialist and Project Manager
Hollaway Environmental + Communications Services, Houston
- 12:15 Lunch Break (on your own)

Friday, January 21

- 1:30 **Ethics**
Pitfalls for the Unwary: A Facilitated Discussion on Ethical Decision-Making for Wetlands Practitioners

Brandon M. Tuck, Esq., Program Co-Chair
Vinson & Elkins, Houston
- 3:00 Networking Break
- 3:15 **When Is a Ditch Not a Ditch?**
Technical Details Explaining How the US Army Corps of Engineers Views Ditches in Their Context to Define Jurisdiction and Permitting Requirements

Rick Howard, PWS, Senior Ecologist and Project Manager
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Houston
- 4:00 **The Regulatory Drivers for Mitigation Banking in Texas**
Mitigation Banking Issues, Hurdles, Challenges, and Successes

Adam McIntyre, Founder and CEO
Water and Land Solutions, Raleigh, NC
- 4:45 Evaluations and Adjourn