

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



SEPTEMBER 2021

Updates from LA-COE SOC2021:

The LA-COE virtually hosted a panel session titled, “RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana: Research to support Louisiana’s Coastal Master Plan” at the State of the Coast conference in June 2021. RFP1 research subrecipients presented their research during this session.

LA-COE RFP1 FUNDED RESEARCH

- On June 22, 2017, LA-COE announced almost \$3 million in funding through the first RFP process and supported 13 projects.

LA-COE RFP1 Funded Projects

All projects were completed by October 2020 and the details of those areas, reports, and data as well as how this research can inform CPRAs Coastal provided on our [Funded Research](#) webpage.

Bingqing Liu
The Water Institute of the Gulf

STATE OF THE COAST
TIME FOR ACTION. TOGETHER.

OCEANOGRAPHY ARTICLE:

The LA-COE collaborated with other Centers of Excellence on the article “Prospects for Gulf of Mexico Environmental Recovery and Restoration” released in June 2021 in *Oceanography*. This article considers the prospects for environmental recovery based on what we know from previous oil spills and from the data on the coastal ecosystem of the Gulf of Mexico collected since the DWH oil spill.

Full text is available [here](#).

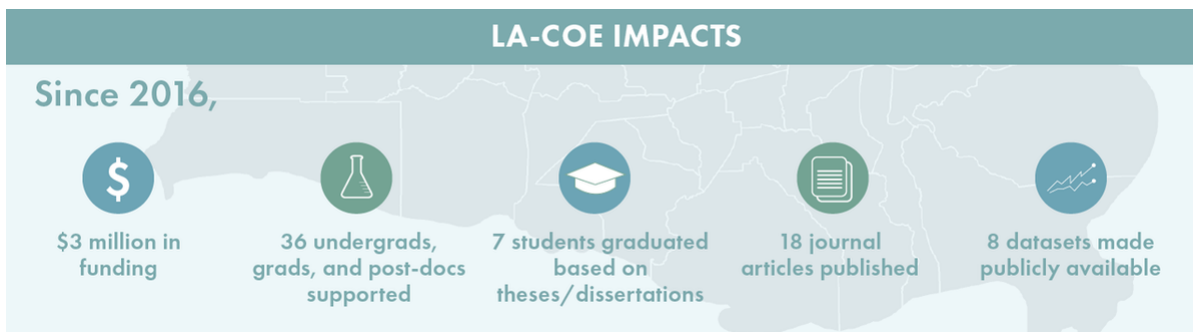


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RFP2 CYCLE AWARDS:

The LA-COE issued Request for Proposals cycle 2 (RFP2) to fund research that directly supports planning and implementation of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan in February 2021. During this round, the LA-COE received 20 full proposals for the Graduate Studentship Awards and Research Awards for a total of \$5.9 million in requests. In the summer, the LA-COE coordinated with subject matter experts and external review board members and evaluated each proposal in the panel meeting. In July 2021, eight recipients were selected with \$2.3 million granted to four Graduate Studentship Awards and four Research Awards led by Louisiana organizations or universities. Read more [here](#).

Impacts



New Papers

DR. KEHUI XU


Congratulations to Dr. Kehui Xu for two new papers coming from his LA-COE RFP1 project, “Hydrodynamics and sediment dynamics in Barataria Bay, Louisiana, USA. Estuarine” and “A numerical investigation of salinity variations in the Barataria Estuary, Louisiana in connection with the Mississippi River and restoration activities.”

The full papers can be read [here](#) and [here](#).

DR. SCOTT HAGEN

Another newly-released paper from LA-COE RFP1 cycle “An Examination of Compound Flood Hazard Zones for Past, Present, and Future Low-Gradient Coastal Land-Margins” studied the evolution of the compound flood

Tweet of the Quarter

 **The Water Institute** @TheH2OInstitute · Sep 17
Congratulations to the eight recipients of LA-COE's Graduate Studentship Award and Research Award! Their funded projects will support planning and implementation of the [@LouisianaCPRA](#) Coastal Master Plan. Learn more about each award: bit.ly/3nE70Ka #LouisianaCOE #Science



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

western settlement and alterations to the Mississippi River and deltaic system, to the present day and out to 2090.

The full paper can be read [here](#).

LA-COE would like to acknowledge Dr. Scott Hagen’s outstanding achievements as part of RFP1 cycle and his overall distinguished academic career in the field of coastal engineering. Dr. Hagen developed numerous forecast tide and storm surge models spanning the deep ocean to coastal land margins with an emphasis on the coastal dynamics of global climate change and sea level rise. His legacy lives on through his long and successful research that encourages and benefits worldwide coastal communities.

To find other papers published from LA-COE funding, please see the Google Scholar page here:

[LA-COE Google Scholar Page](#)

Success Metrics

Success metrics developed in SOP Version 1 (V1, Darnell et al., 2016) were used to monitor the progress of LA-COE projects that were funded under the first Request for Proposals (RFP1). The tracking of success metrics enables LA-COE to identify important events and trends of subawards as well as guide the LA-COE to improve management of future funding cycles.

More details on RFP1 success metrics are available [here](#).

The assessment for outcome “number of Coastal Master Plan projects and programs that directly utilize research findings within one year of project completion” has been evaluated after completion of projects. A total of seven RFP1 projects directly contribute to the implementation of Coastal Master Plan with important information, data, and models.

The success metrics for RFP2 cycle can be found [here](#).

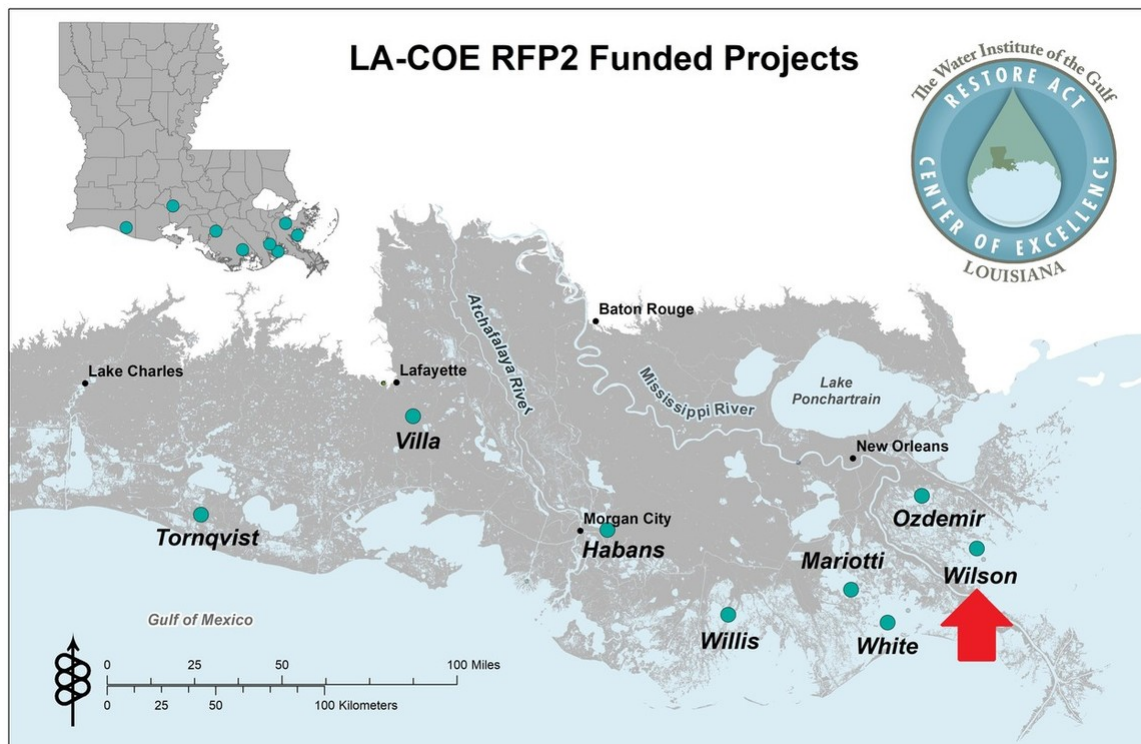
PI Reference Guide

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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](#).

Funded Research

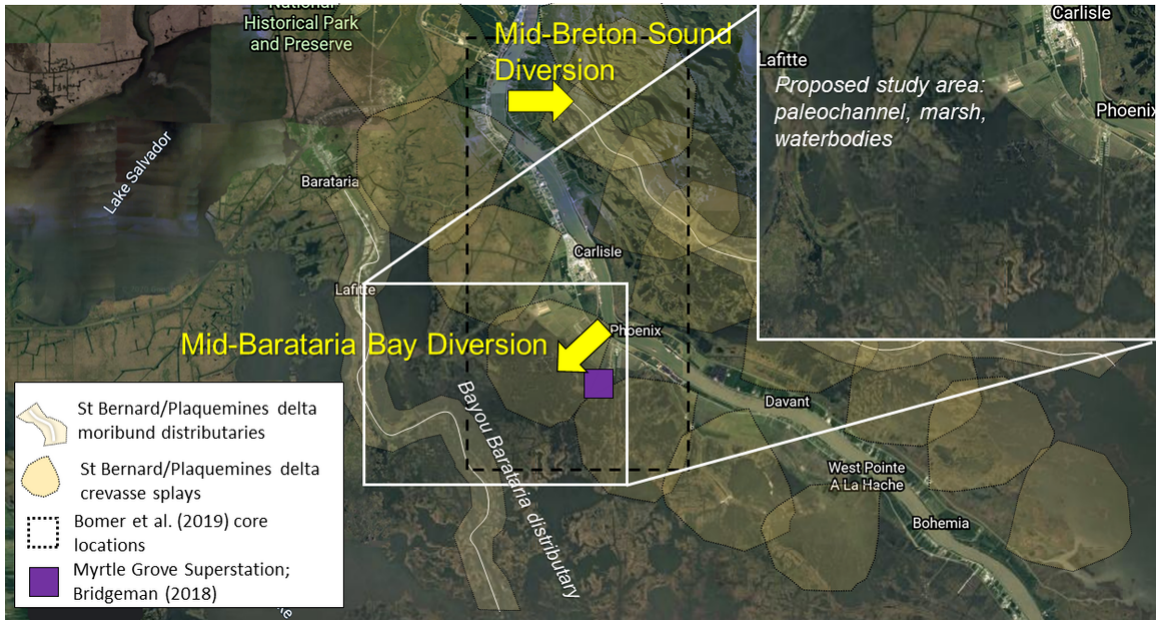


Project Highlight

Subsurface stratigraphic controls on subsidence and carbon sequestration in Mississippi Delta diversion receiving basins

Carol Wilson, Louisiana State University. Co-investigators: Kehui Xu, Louisiana State University; Torbjörn Tornqvist, Tulane University; Elizabeth Chamberlain, Wageningen University; Hampton Peele, Louisiana Geological Society

This work will investigate and improve understanding of the heterogeneous geological framework that drives differential consolidation rates, and thus subsidence and organic matter sequestration in the delta. These geological conditions will be added to future modeling and mitigation work using a suite of observational field and laboratory analyses. Research will include analyses within marsh, bay, and paleochannel sub-environments in Barataria Basin of southeast Louisiana.



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