

JULY 2023

Updates from LA-COE

Farewell, Bingqing Liu!
 Bingqing Liu, Ph.D., Deputy Director for LA-COE since 2020, has stepped down and will be starting a new position this August as Assistant Professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

LA-COE thanks Bingqing for her hard work and dedication to helping operate LA-COE throughout the RFP2 award cycle. While she will be greatly missed as a member of our team, LA-COE wishes Bingqing many successes in her new role!



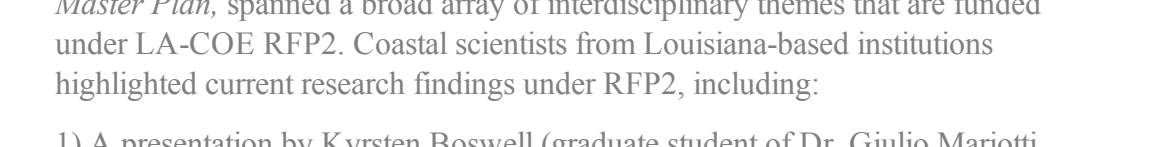
BINGQING LIU
 Research Scientist/Deputy Director LA-COE

Events and Engagement

Co-Production of Science Workshop

On **May 3-4, 2023** the NOAA RESTORE Science Program, LA-COE, and Louisiana Sea Grant hosted the Louisiana Co-Production of Science Workshop at the LSU Center for River Studies in Baton Rouge, LA. The workshop's goals were to encourage natural resource managers and academic researchers to learn about science co-production and to discuss opportunities to improve science for natural resource management in Louisiana.

The two-day workshop was attended by 26 participants with 11 co-hosts and included funding agency representatives, academic researchers, NGOs, local, state, and federal natural resource managers. LA-COE thanks its partners and RFP2 PIs for participating in this engaging workshop and we look forward to continuing these co-production conversations in the future!



State of the Coast 2023

LA-COE held a session at the 2023 State of the Coast conference in New Orleans, Louisiana on **June 2**. The session, *RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana: Highlights of funded research, and their support for the LA Coastal Master Plan*, spanned a broad array of interdisciplinary themes that are funded under LA-COE RFP2. Coastal scientists from Louisiana-based institutions highlighted current research findings under RFP2, including:

- 1) A presentation by Kyrsten Boswell (graduate student of Dr. Giulio Mariotti, Louisiana State University) on marsh edge erosion for current and future scenarios that contributes to the understanding of coastal wetland loss due to erosion in Louisiana and worldwide;
- 2) A presentation by Dr. Jonathan Willis (Nicholls State University) on the socio-ecological attributes of Louisiana's ridge landforms which will provide valuable insights for the state's coastal ridge restoration; and
- 3) A presentation by Dr. Robert Habans (The Data Center) on community migration in response to flood risk and disaster events in coastal Louisiana highlighting the implications for forecasting future migration.

Also in this session, David Lindquist (CPRA) presented on how LA-COE-funded research findings are being used to support the implementation of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan.

LA-COE thanks all of the session participants and attendees for joining us for this informative session and discussion!

All-Hands Meeting

The LA-COE 2023 All-Hands Meeting will take place on **August 1, 2023** at The Center for Coastal and Deltaic Solutions in Baton Rouge, LA. The meeting will take place from 8:30a.m. – 1:00p.m. CT and will include the LA-COE Executive Committee, partners from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), The Water Institute, and RFP2 PIs, co-PIs and graduate students.

During the meeting research progress and results from RFP2-funded projects will be presented and discussed and there will be a graduate student poster session. For more information about the LA-COE 2023 All-Hands Meeting, please reach out to LA-COE@thewaterinstitute.org.

GOMCON Call For Sessions

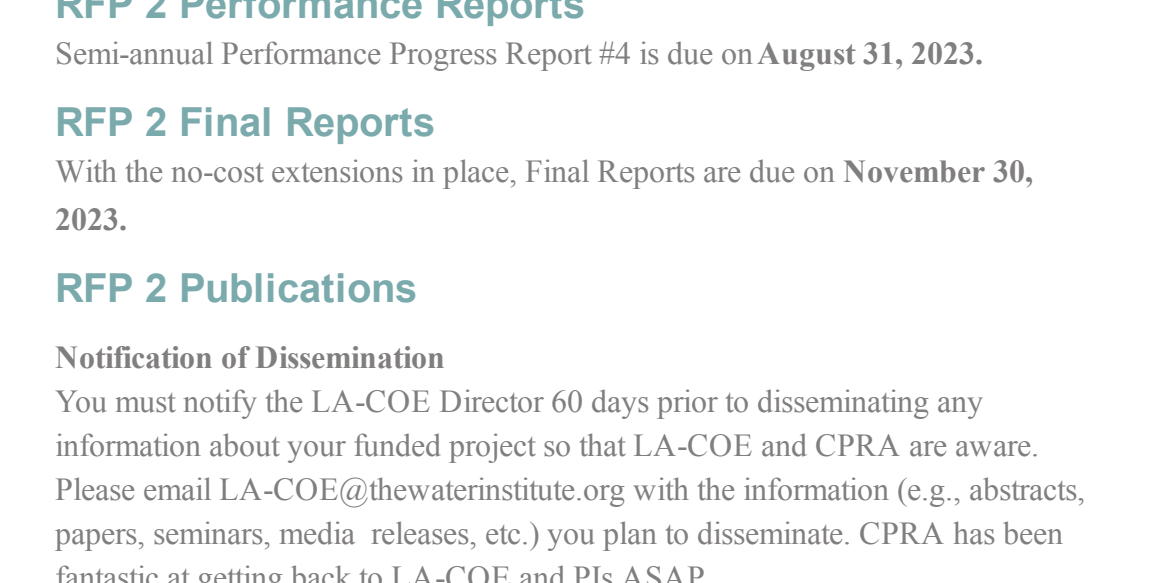
It's time to start planning the Gulf of Mexico Conference (#GOMCON), scheduled for February 19-22, 2024, at the **Tampa Convention Center** in Tampa, Florida.

Have a good idea for a session? Submit your proposal by July 28, 2023. Sessions should establish dialogue, facilitate collaboration, and/or identify needs and gaps around the proposed area of interest. Session proposals that promote the integration of science and management into decision-making are encouraged.

Visit GulfofMexicoAlliance.org/GOMCON2024 to view conference topics and their full descriptions.

Details on the schedule, registration, and hotels will be available on August 1, 2023.

The call for abstracts will open on September 1, 2023



Reminders for PI's

RFP 2 Performance Reports

Semi-annual Performance Progress Report #4 is due on **August 31, 2023**.

RFP 2 Final Reports

With the no-cost extensions in place, Final Reports are due on **November 30, 2023**.

RFP 2 Publications

Notification of Dissemination

You must notify the LA-COE Director 60 days prior to disseminating any information about your funded project so that LA-COE and CPRA are aware. Please email LA-COE@thewaterinstitute.org with the information (e.g., abstracts, papers, seminars, media releases, etc.) you plan to disseminate. CPRA has been fantastic at getting back to LA-COE and PIs ASAP.

Standard Language for Acknowledgements

"This study was supported by the U.S. Department of the Treasury through the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority's Center of Excellence Research Grants Program under the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) (Award No. 1 RCEGR260007-01-00). The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Treasury."

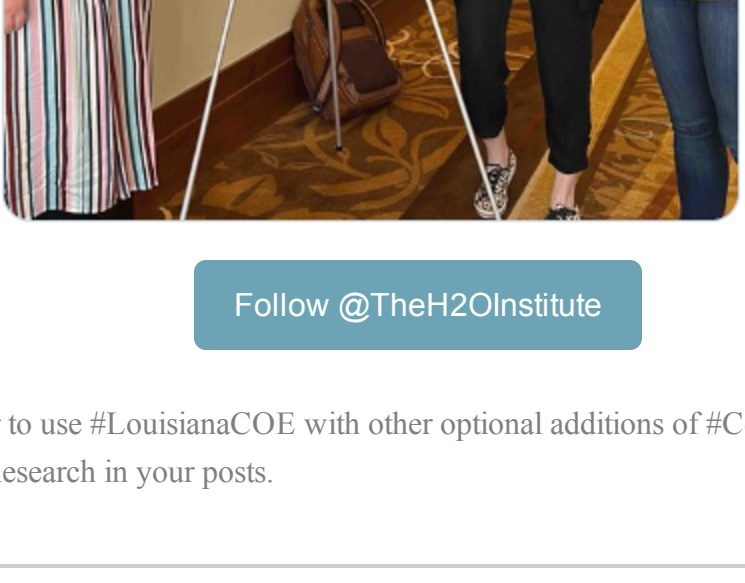
Reporting	Period	PPR #	Due Date
Semi-annual PPR#1	August 2021 – January 2022	1	February 28, 2022
Semi-annual PPR #2	February 2022 – July 2022	2	August 31, 2022
Semi-annual PPR#3	August 2022 – January 2023	3	February 28, 2023
Semi-annual PPR#4	February 2023 – July 2023	4	August 31, 2023
Final Report	August 2021 – November 2023	N/A	November 30, 2023
Data Available	Within 1 year after final report	N/A	October 31, 2023

Impacts



Tweet of the Quarter

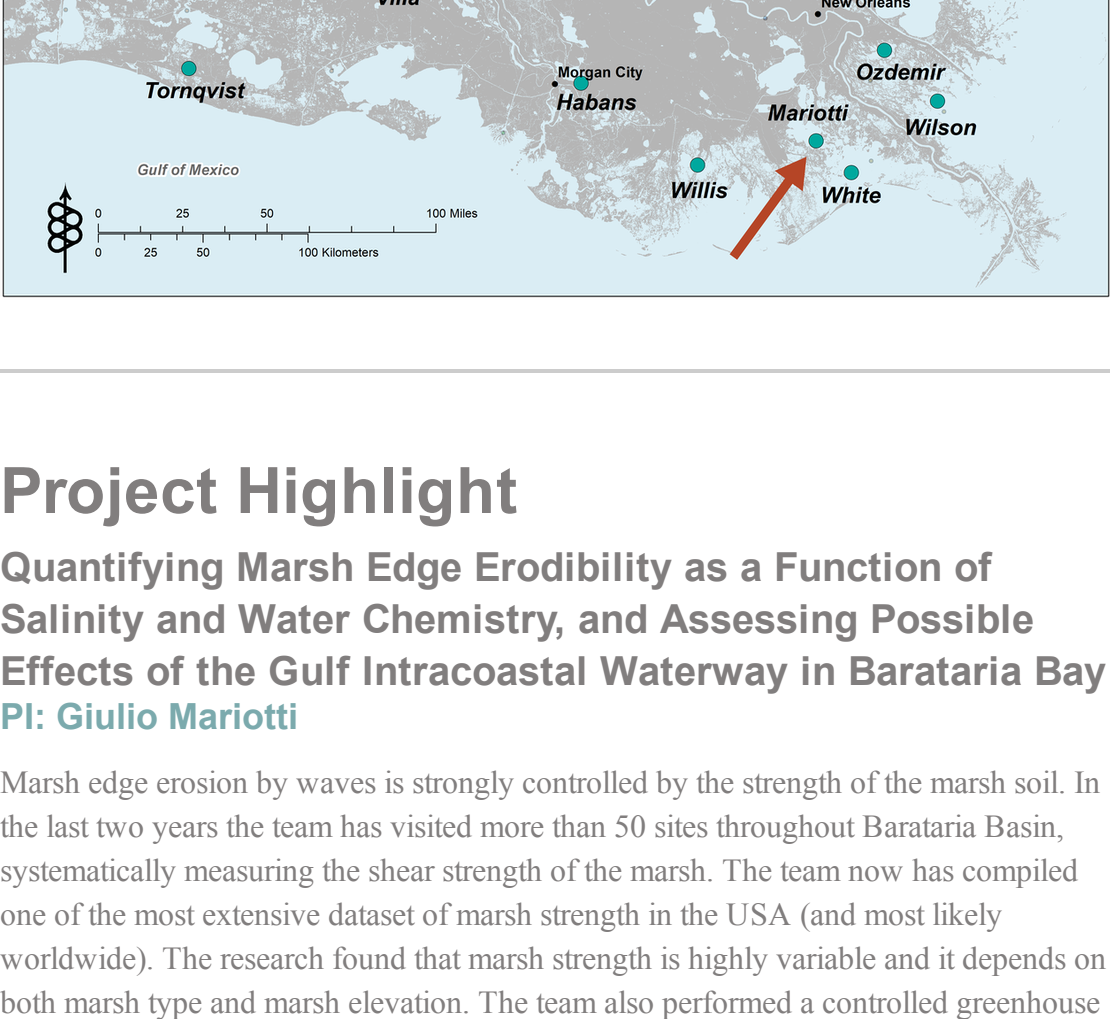
LA-COE's Director, Jessica Henkel, and Data Manager, Brittany Jensen had a productive week coordinating with our Center of Excellence partners and other Gulf colleagues at the Gulf of Mexico Alliance All-Hands Meeting in Austin, TX in June.



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Remember to use #LouisianaCOE with other optional additions of #Coast #Science #AppliedResearch in your posts.

Funded Research

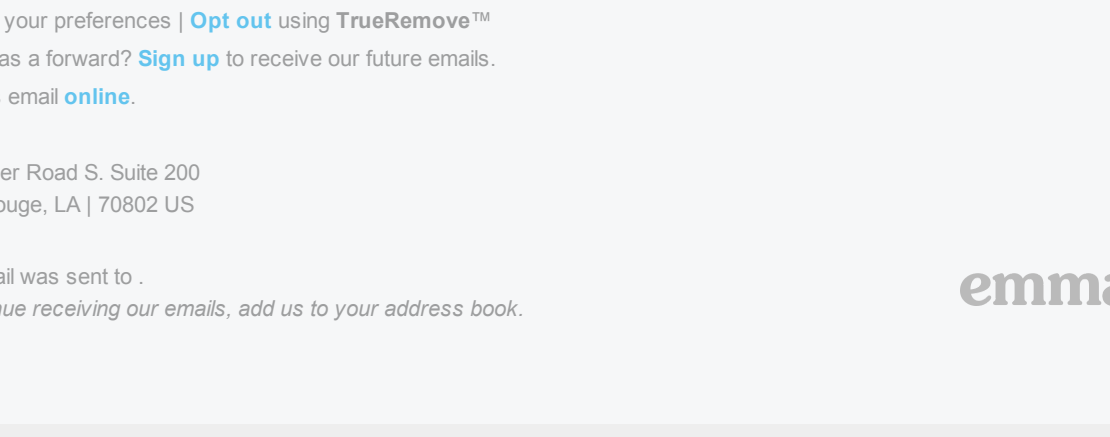


Project Highlight

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

Marsh edge erosion by waves is strongly controlled by the strength of the marsh soil. In the last two years the team has visited more than 50 sites throughout Barataria Bay, systematically measuring the shear strength of the marsh. The team now has compiled one of the most extensive dataset of marsh strength in the USA (and most likely worldwide). The research found that marsh strength is highly variable and it depends on both marsh type and marsh elevation. The team also performed a controlled greenhouse experiment, in which marsh plants were grown under different elevations and water quality, after which their soil strength was measured. On one hand this data helped better understand what variables and mechanisms dictate the marsh strength. On the other hand, this data provides a tool to predict what marsh edge erosion would be in the future.

The photo below features co-PI Dr. Tracy Quirk and Master's Students Krysten Boswell and Natalie Matherne at one of the field sites.



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