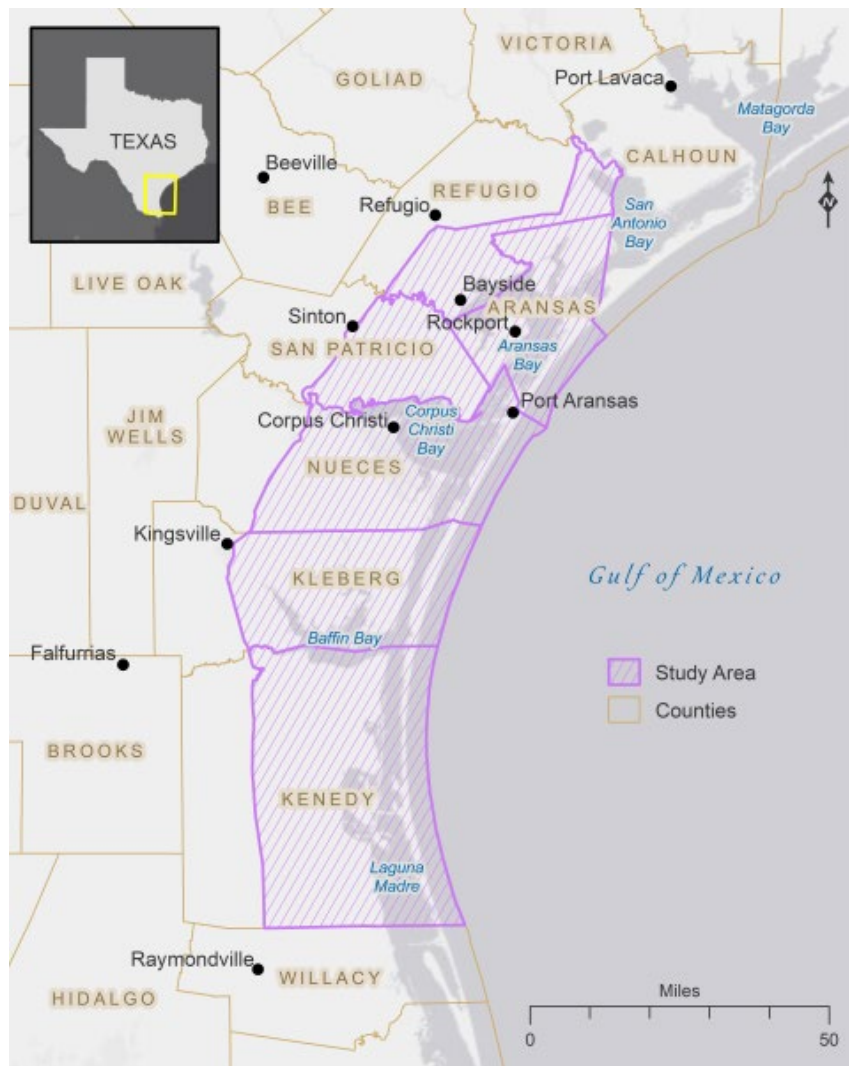


# Management Transition Advisory Group Charter, Roles, & Responsibilities

## Effects of Sea Level Rise (ESLR) Coastal Resilience *Living with Sea Level Rise in the Texas Coastal Bend*



Texas Coastal Bend Region and Study Area

The Texas Coastal Bend includes eleven coastal counties encompassing the Corpus Christi metropolitan area, with six counties being coastal characterized by a system of barrier islands, lagoons, and estuaries on a broad coastal plain. The region's low elevation, land subsidence, small estuarine tidal ranges, and exposure to hurricanes make the area vulnerable to sea level rise. To protect the region's growing economy, communities need information on the impacts of future sea level rise and the effectiveness of natural and nature-based features (NNBF), which can mitigate coastal risk while offering a variety of additional benefits. This project aims to:

- Improve and adapt existing coupled sea level rise modeling to the Texas Coastal Bend
- Assess sea level rise vulnerabilities and NNBF efficacy
- Form a collaborative Management Transition Advisory Group (MTAG) to produce a knowledge base for modeling and assessing sea level rise resiliency in the region

This Charter document defines the MTAG as well as its roles, responsibilities, and expectations.

**ARTICLE 1. MTAG MEMBERS**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Suggested Contact</b>	<b>Interest Represented</b>
<i>Federal Agencies</i>		
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi	Dr. Clarence Feagin	National security
US Army Corps of Engineers	TBN	Civil works
US Coast Guard	CDR Douglas Salik (to be confirmed)	
<i>State Agencies</i>		
Texas General Land Office	Tony Williams	Environment
Texas Water Development Board	Dr. Evan Turner	Water Planning
Texas Department of Transportation	Matthew Mahoney	Transportation
<i>Local Government</i>		
Coastal Bend Council of Governments	Emily Martinez	Regional gov.
Nueces County Coastal Parks	Scott Cross	Parks and beaches
Corpus Christi Planning Department	Amanda Torres	Municipal gov.
Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization	Craig Casper	Transportation
<i>Local Economic Development</i>		
Port of Corpus Christi	Danielle Hale	Port infrastructure
Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation	Brittany Sotelo	Economic development
Corpus Christi Convention & Visitors Bureau	Meredith Darden	Tourism and rec.
<i>Local Non-Profit</i>		
Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries	Dr. Kiersten Stanzel	Environment
<i>Ex-Officio Member</i>		
Texas Sea Grant	Dr. Debalina Sengupta	Extension

## **ARTICLE 2. MTAG DEFINITION**

The Management Transition Advisory Group (MTAG) for the project on “Effects of Sea Level Rise (ESLR) Coastal Resilience: Living with Sea Level Rise in the Texas Coastal Bend” (ESLR Texas Project) is an active volunteer advisory group involved in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the overall project. MTAG members are representatives of core/primary end-user organizations for the science, data and tools resulting from this project. At a minimum, representation across primary end-users shall include no less than: 1 federal agency with responsibilities along the Texas coast; 2 state agencies with responsibilities along the coast; 2 members in local government; 2 members in economic development; 1 non-profit; and 1 ex-officio member. The MTAG will remain active for the length of the ESLR Texas Project, which is anticipated to end 2025.

## **ARTICLE 3. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

MTAG is an Ad Hoc Advisory Group created as a standing committee for the purpose of working with the ESLR Texas Project Leads. The group shall limit its activities to advising on matters that directly concern the project and its resulting science. The Committee shall have no legal responsibilities and is formed to give advice and recommendations. The MTAG is a non-voting body and all recommendations are provided at will. All MTAG members have equal standing and no officers shall be appointed. The group will be coordinated by the ESLR Texas Project Lead on Engagement, Dr. Katya Wowk ([katya.wowk@tamucc.edu](mailto:katya.wowk@tamucc.edu); 361.825.2030).

MTAG Subgroups may be established to develop advice and guidance on specific project components as desired, however such subgroups must:

- Be formed by no less than three MTAG members
- Operate for no longer than six months of time
- Have defined expected outputs and outcomes that are agreed upon by MTAG members and project leads prior to subgroup formation

## **ARTICLE 4. MODE OF OPERATION**

*Project Webpage:* A project webpage will be kept at:

<https://www.hartheresearch.org/project/living-sea-level-rise-texas-coastal-bend>. This project ‘hub’ will serve as a dynamic virtual hub for communication, integration, promotion, and dissemination of project materials and activities (e.g., research, data, tools, resources, products, presentation Powerpoint slides), and ongoing input and feedback (e.g., survey responses, open-ended comments). The Project Web Page will also enable documentation and sharing of various project accomplishments by team members and will be updated regularly.

*Meetings:* The committee will meet at least twice per year, with one meeting preferred to be in-person. Written notices of upcoming meetings will be emailed to members at least thirty days before a meeting. Meeting shall be held virtually and when in-person, in Corpus Christi TX. Meetings will focus on sharing local and technical knowledge; informational and operational needs; and input, feedback, and advice on various aspects of the project throughout its duration.

*Meeting Report:* A meeting report will be created for each meeting of the MTAG within one month of the meeting. An electronic copy will be emailed to the MTAG as well as stored on the

Project Webpage. Meeting Reports will contain recommendations provided by the MTAG during official meeting hours.

*Additional Recommendations and Reports:* Additional recommendations and reports may be provided to project leads for their consideration outside of official meeting hours. These may be posted to the Project Webpage at the discretion of project leads.

*Dismissal:* MTAG members who are absent without reasonable cause from two successive meetings will be considered to have resigned their seat.

## **ARTICLE 5. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

The role of MTAG members is to share local and technical knowledge; informational and operational needs; and input, feedback, and advice on various aspects of the project throughout its duration. At a minimum, MTAG members are expected to:

- Attend MTAG meetings
- Provide feedback and guidance to developing science and tools
- Offer recommendations for project improvement
- Identify additional data that may be relevant to the project as appropriate
- Link project leads to additional *Project Partners* as appropriate (see Appendix below)

## **APPENDIX. PROJECT PARTNERS**

A diverse set of strategically selected additional *Project Partners* will also be invited to participate as secondary end-users of the project's science and products, including (but not limited to) the following. MTAG members are asked to facilitate these connections as appropriate.

- County and municipal officials from project counties (Aransas, Refugio, San Patricio, Nueces, Kleberg and Kenedy), such as elected officials (County Judges, Mayors, Commissioners), Emergency Managers, Floodplain Managers, Stormwater Management specialists, Building Permitters, Public Works officials, etc.
- Local transportation officials, i.e., Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority.
- Port of Corpus Christi – the third largest port in the United States, based on total revenue tonnage, and the second largest exporter of crude oil.
- County and municipal officials from adjacent coastal counties to the project (i.e., Cameron, Willacy, Calhoun, Victoria, Jackson, and Matagorda).