
NATURAL RESOURCE USES (NRU) SUBCOMMITTEE

GALVESTON BAY COUNCIL
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

13 December 2019

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR Cherie O'Brien, TPWD - ABSENT	SUBCOMMITTEE VICE CHAIR Philip Smith, GBF
NRU COORDINATOR Lindsey Lippert, GBEP	

Members/Participants Present

Cynthia Clevenger (GBEP), Amanda Hackney (Black Cat GIS), Erin Kinney (HARC), Brian Koch (TSSWCB), Elizabeth Kompanik (TCEQ), Haille Leija (GBF), Lindsey Lippert (GBEP), Lisa Marshall (GBEP), Kristen McGovern (GBEP), Richard Nguyen (Harris County CERT), Cherie O'Brien (TPWD), Dianna Ramirez (GLO), Christian Rines (GBEP), Matt Singer (GBF), Philip Smith (GBF), Mary Stiles (GBEP), Patricia Thompson (GBEP)

Soil Health Principles and Building Healthy Soils

-Brian Koch, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

*Presentation available upon request.

Brian Koch (Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board) presented on Soil Health Principles and Building Healthy Soils, including his own experiences with said practices. His presentation went over healthy soil indicators, water retention and different techniques he used to improve his soil. Discussions following the presentation included resources for further education/implementation, pesticides/herbicides, land-use conversion, and the impacts of corporate farming. Follow up to the presentation included the following links:

Dr. Zach Bush

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5jTbCUimV4>

Dr. Allen Williams

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdL10zHHxyM>

Dr. Jonathan Lundgren

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53wmeXlOo1I>

Updates from the Estuary Program

Staff Updates

The State of the Bay Symposium will be held January 22-23, 2020.

NRU Project Updates

*Spreadsheet available on request.

Regional Monitoring Portal Update

-Erin Kinney, Houston Advanced Research Center

*Presentation available upon request.

HARC presented an update to the Regional Monitoring Database (RDM). This is a programmatic deliverable and part of the Galveston Bay Plan, 2nd Edition. The RDM is a centralized data portal that supports work of stakeholders in management of the Galveston Bay ecosystem. The RDM will be integrates with the plan, State of the Bay report, Status and Trends, and the Coastal Atlas.

Galveston Bay Oyster Workgroup Update

Haille Leija (Galveston Bay Foundation) gave a brief summary of the November meeting of the Galveston Bay Oyster Workgroup, and effort being hosted under the auspices of the GBEP but facilitated by GBF and TPWD. The main task for this first meeting was to define the goal of the workgroup, which will likely encompass the following tasks:

- identify funding and restoration opportunities;
- define restoration techniques; and
- facilitate research and identify gaps.

The follow-up meeting will be held in May at Texas A&M Galveston.

Other

Selection of A Presenter for Next Meeting - Deferred

Roundtable - None

Announcements

Brian Koch announced a Soil Health Workshop hosted by Texas Sea Grant and TSSWCB on January 9 in Riviera, Texas at the Riviera High School Library.

Dianna Ramirez announced a position opening at the LaPorte Regional Office of the GLO for a Natural Resource Specialist/Coastal Biologist. Those applying must go through the [Work in Texas](#) website.

Karla Klay announced a save the date for World Ocean's Day Festival on Galveston Island as June 6. Looking for hands-on exhibition booths with minimal handouts. In addition, there will be a luncheon on June 7 honoring Diane Wilson.