

Blue Carbon: A Management Tool for the Conservation and Restoration of Coastal Wetlands

November 5, 2015 | 8:30AM to 4:30PM

*Mission-Aransas Reserve Estuarine Research Center at University of Texas Marine Science Institute
750 Channel View Dr., Port Aransas, TX 78373*

Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Arrival, sign-in
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
9:30 a.m.	Host perspective "Why an interest in blue carbon?" <i>Jace Tunnell, Director, Mission Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve</i>
9:40 a.m.	Introduction to Coastal Blue Carbon Concepts <i>Stefanie Simpson, Blue Carbon Program Coordinator, Restore America's Estuaries</i> Background on blue carbon and importance to restoration/conservation needs Introduction to the voluntary carbon market Market and policy opportunities
10:25 a.m.	<i>Break</i>
10:40 a.m.	Socio-Economic Value and Ecosystem Services Benefits of Blue Carbon, <i>David W. Yoskowitz, Ph.D., Associate Director and HRI Endowed Chair for Socio-Economics, Harte Research Institute</i>
11:15 a.m.	Applications of Blue Carbon <i>Dr. Steve Crooks, Director of Climate Change Services at Environmental Science Associates</i> How to assess coastal blue carbon potential Blue carbon as a management tool Overview of Blue Carbon case studies Tampa Bay Case Study and Project Planning
12:00 p.m.	<i>Lunch and Field Trip – Visit Wetlands Education Center on campus and explore Texas coastal habitats</i>
1:30 p.m.	Blue Carbon Projects in Texas, Coastal Ecosystem Processes and Critical Roles in the Global Cycling of Carbon, <i>Dr. Kenneth Dunton, Professor, Department of Marine Science, University of Texas Marine Science Institute and Mission Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve</i>
2:15 p.m.	<i>Break</i>
2:30 p.m.	Lessons learned for developing landscape restoration and climate change mitigation projects <i>Scott Settelmyer, Managing Director, TerraCarbon</i>
3:10 p.m.	<i>Networking Break: Identifying local blue carbon project opportunities, partners and constraints</i>
3:30 p.m.	Blue Carbon in the Gulf: Discussion and Next Steps (<i>Led by Dr. Steve Crooks & Stefanie Simpson</i>) How information sharing can be valuable to end-users Next steps for collaboration & moving forward
4:15 p.m.	Conclusions, Evaluations and Certifications
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn

Lunch and Field Trip Schedule

12:00 – 12:20 Catered lunch

12:25 Meet your sticker color group (on the front of your nametag) at the bottom of the steps outside the front door. Walk to Wetlands Education Center as a group.

Saltmarsh Station (yellow dot start here) with Katie

Mangrove Station (purple dot start here) with Lalitha

Seagrass Station (green dot start here) with Victoria and Kim

Rotation Schedule:

1st Rotation: 12:30 – 12:45

2nd Rotation: 12:45 – 1:00

3rd Rotation: 1:00 – 1:15

1:15 – 1:20 Walk back to Estuarine Research Center
Visit with your neighbors on the way back! Ask questions!

1:20 – 1:30 Restroom and Coffee Break (more snacks, don't worry!)