



# 2022 TEXAS GROUNDWATER SUMMIT

Hyatt Regency Hill Country • San Antonio, TX • August 30-September 1

## DRAFT AGENDA

### Monday, August 29

*Field Trip to Edwards Aquifer Authority Education Outreach Center (separate registration required)*

### Day 1 – Tuesday, August 30

*\*Breakfast and lunch on your own on Tuesday. A discount voucher for breakfast is available to hotel guests.*

**9:30am – 11:00am TAGD Annual Membership Meeting**

**1:00pm – 3:30pm Welcome Address**

Leah Martinsson, Executive Director, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

**Panel – The “S” Word: Sustainability in Groundwater**

Moderator: Vanessa Puig-Williams, Texas Water Program Director, Environmental Defense Fund

Robert Mace, Executive Director, Meadows Center for Water & the Environment

Wade Oliver, Texas Water Resources Lead, INTERA Inc.

Mitchell Sodek, General Manager, Central Texas GCD

Deborah Trejo, Partner, Kemp Smith Law

**El Paso Water**

Scott Reinert, Water Resources Manager, El Paso Water Utilities

**Keynote Address**

Kathleen Jackson, Director, Texas Water Development Board

**3:00pm – 3:30pm Afternoon Break** (Sponsored by Edwards Aquifer Authority & INTERA Inc.)

**3:30pm – 5:30pm Update on Produced Water Consortium**

Rusty Smith, Executive Director, Texas Produced Water Consortium

**OpenET and Possibilities in Texas**

Garshaw Amidi-Abraham, Senior Specialist, OpenET

**Panel – Water Data: People and Purpose**

Moderator: Sam Marie Hermitte, Assistant Deputy Executive Administrator, Texas Water Development Board

Amy Bush, Hydrologist, RMBJ Geo

Ashley Greuter, Project Chief, Harris-Galveston Subsidence District

Joe Yelderian, Professor and Geosciences Department Chair, Baylor University

**5:30pm – 6:30pm Welcome Reception** (Sponsored by Half Associates)



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## Day 2 – Wednesday, August 31

**7:45am – 8:15am**     **Breakfast** (Sponsored by Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District)

**8:15am – 10:00am**     **Welcome Address**  
Amber Blount, President, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

**What’s the Deal With WOTUS?**  
Julie Nahrgang, Executive Director, Water Environment Association of Texas

**Legislative Interim Update**  
Brian Sledge, Managing Partner, SledgeLaw Group

**Panel – Groundwater Management When Everyone Wants a Piece of Texas**  
Moderator: Natalie Ballew, Groundwater Technical Assistance Manager, Texas Water Development Board  
Scott Brooks, Director, Clearwater UWCD  
Bill Dugat, Partner, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta  
Mike Keester, Principal, RW Harden & Associates  
Lon Shell, Commissioner, Hays County  
Micah Voulgaris, General Manager, Cow Creek GCD

**10:00am – 10:30am**     **Morning Break** (Sponsored by Edwards Aquifer Authority & INTERA Inc.)

**10:30am – 12:00pm**     **Legislator Panel**  
*Panelists to be announced soon!*

**Keynote Address**  
Garry Merritt, Chief Executive Officer, Great Springs Project

**12:00pm – 1:30pm**     **Luncheon** (Sponsored by North Texas GCD)

**1:30pm – 3:00pm**     **Breakout Track A – Fundamentals for GCD Board and Staff Members**  
**Groundwater Data 101**  
Heather Dodson, Groundwater Data Team Lead, Texas Water Development Board  
**Best Practices for Effective Board Meetings**  
Natasha Martin, Shareholder, Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody

**Breakout Track B – Hot Topics in Joint Planning**  
**Monitoring and Tracking DFC Compliance**  
James Beach, Principal, Advanced Groundwater Solutions  
**Approaches to Evaluating Socioeconomic Impacts**  
Quinn McColly, Conservation Finance Director, Texas Water Trade  
**When There is No GCD: Setting DFCs**  
Velma Danielson, Senior Project Manager, Blanton & Associates



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**Day 2 – Wednesday, August 31 (continued)**

- 1:30pm – 3:00pm**     **Breakout Track C – Fine Tuning: Groundwater Modeling and Measurement**  
**Groundwater Use Estimation and Footprinting**  
 Rohit Goswami, Principal Engineer, RRG Professional Engineering  
**The GULF 2023 Model: Modeling Advances and Preliminary Results**  
 John Ellis, Supervisory Hydrologist, United States Geological Survey  
**Model-data Fusion of Hydrologic Simulations and Satellite Observations to Estimate Changes in Water Table Depth**  
 Dimitrios Stampoulis, Lead Scientist, Southwest Research Institute
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm**     **Afternoon Break** (Sponsored by Edwards Aquifer Authority & INTERA Inc.)
- 3:30pm – 5:00pm**     **Breakout Track A – Fundamentals for GCD Board and Staff Members**  
**Nuts and Bolts of Management Plans**  
 Robert Bradley, GMA Liaison/Senior Geoscientist, Texas Water Development Board  
**Working with Landowners Effectively**  
 Alyssa Balzen, Geoscientist, Edwards Aquifer Authority  
**Inspiring, Engaging, and Supporting Youth Water Leaders**  
 David Smith, 4-H2O Program Coordinator, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
- Breakout Track B – Getting Creative: Water Supply Solutions**  
**Future of ASR in Texas: TWDB ASR Supporting Studies**  
 Azzah AlKurdi, Engineering Specialist, Texas Water Development Board  
**Managed Aquifer Recharge Using Stormwater: Lessons from the Harris County Pilot Study**  
 Gretchen Miller, Associate Professor, Texas A&M University  
**Impacts of Regenerative Ag on Water Storage and Soil Health**  
 Katie Lewis, Associate Professor, Texas A&M AgriLife Research
- Breakout Track C – Partnerships for Aquifer Protection**  
**Camp Bullis Sentinel Landscape**  
 Daniel Oppenheimer, Land Program Director, Hill Country Alliance  
**Land for Water: Texas Land Conservancy Easements**  
 Mark Steinbach, Executive Director, Texas Land Conservancy  
**Texas Playa Conservation Initiative**  
 Rachel Fern, Wetland Program Leader, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm**     **Reception** (Sponsored by Environmental Defense Fund)
- 8:00pm – 10:00pm**     **Drinks & Desserts Networking Event** (Sponsored by Real-Edwards Conservation & Reclamation District)



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## Day 3 – Thursday, September 1

**7:45am – 8:15am**    **Breakfast** (Sponsored by Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District)

**8:15am – 10:00am**    **10 Years of EAA v. Day**  
Greg Ellis, Attorney, GM Ellis Law Firm  
Russell Johnson, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge

**Panel – Issues in Water Quality**

Moderator: Diana Thomas, General Manager, Sterling County UWCD  
Vince Clause, Hydrogeologist, Allan R. Standen LLC  
Marc Friberg, Executive Director of External & Regulatory Affairs, Edwards Aquifer Authority  
Janet Guthrie, General Manager, Hemphill County UWCD

**Presentation**

*Speaker to be announced soon!*

**10:00am – 10:30am**    **Morning Break** (Sponsored by Edwards Aquifer Authority & INTERA Inc.)

**10:30am – 12:15pm**    **Keynote Address**  
Emily Lindley, Commissioner, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

**Panel – Navigating the Journey To and Through a Contested Case Hearing**

Moderator: Mike Gershon, Principal, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend  
Bill Hutchison, Independent Groundwater Consultant  
Stacey Reese, Attorney, Stacey Reese Law  
Blayne Stansberry, President, Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
Jim Totten, General Manager, Lost Pines GCD