



# 2022 TEXAS GROUNDWATER SUMMIT

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

## AGENDA

Monday, August 29 - Field Trip to Edwards Aquifer Authority Education Outreach Center (separate registration)

### 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

**Managing for the Future: El Paso Water**

Scott Reinert, Water Resources Manager, El Paso Water Utilities

**Keynote Address**

Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator, 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 Outreach 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, Program Manager, Harris-Galveston Subsidence District

Joe Yelderman, Professor and Geosciences Department Chair, Baylor University

**5:30pm – 6:30pm Welcome Reception** (Sponsored by Halff 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 LLP  
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**  
Moderator: Leah Martinsson, Executive Director, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts  
Senator Sarah Eckhardt, District 14, Texas Senate  
Representative Kyle Kacal, District 12, Texas House of Representatives  
Representative Tracy King, District 80, Chairman of House Natural Resources Committee  
Senator Charles Perry, District 28, Chairman of Senate Agriculture, Water, & Rural Affairs Committee

**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



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

- 1:30pm – 3:00pm**     **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
- 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



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

- 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)

## 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**  
 Gregory 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
- The New GCD Index**  
 Julia Stanford, Programs & Operations Manager, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts
- 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