



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 – 5:315pm 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

5:15pm – 6:15pm 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