



**MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST**

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**EMBARGOED UNTIL OCTOBER 30, 2020**

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**MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST**  
**ANNOUNCES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

On July 31, 2017 a federal Clean Water Act lawsuit was filed by San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper and S. Diane Wilson against Formosa Plastics, Corp. alleging illegal discharges from Formosa's plant located in Point Comfort, Texas.

On June 27, 2019 the US District Court in Victoria issued a declaratory judgement against Formosa for monetary and injunctive relief after which a settlement was reached that included Formosa's commitment to undertake engineering changes, future monitoring, mitigation payments for future infractions, and remediation of past discharges. The settlement also provided for the establishment of the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust to be funded by Formosa Plastics, Corp. in the amount of \$50 million over a five-year period. The mission of the Trust is to support and fund environmental mitigation projects, studies, and initiatives in the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay ecosystems.

In February 2020, Steven J. Raabe, P.E. was appointed as Trustee of the Trust.

Today, the Trustee announces the opening of a Request for Proposal period where governmental entities and non-profit organizations are invited to submit proposals for environmental mitigation projects, studies and initiatives in the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay ecosystems. The deadline for submitting proposals is November 30.

“The purpose of this mitigation project is to research, protect, and restore the water bodies and surrounding ecosystems of the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay Systems, or the river deltas feeding into those systems,” stated Raabe. Those funding priorities are: public education, public access improvement, research and habitat restoration.

“The Trust has a unique opportunity at this time to support valuable environmental projects in the Matagorda and San Antonio Bays and it is our hope that we will receive strong proposals that help preserve, restore and otherwise improve the health of these systems,” Raabe stated.

Further information and proposal documents can be found on the Trust’s website at:

<https://mbmtrust.com/rfps/>

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