

January 31, 2024

Steven J. Raabe, P.E.  
Trustee, Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust  
PO Box 1269  
Poth, TX 78147-1269

RE: Quarterly Progress Report for the period 11/1/2023 – 1/31/2024.

Dear Mr. Raabe,

Please find enclosed the following deliverable: Quarterly Progress Report for the project  
“Sediment Quality Assessment Survey of Lavaca and Matagorda Bays” Contract No. 019.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Montagna, Ph.D.  
Endowed Chair, Hydroecology, Harte Research Institute  
Professor, Physical and Environmental Science Department  
Regents Professor, Texas A&M University System  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5869  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412  
Phone: 361-825-2040  
Email: [Paul.Montagna@tamucc.edu](mailto:Paul.Montagna@tamucc.edu)

**I. TITLE, CONTRACT INFORMATION, AND CONTACTS:**

**Sediment Quality Assessment Survey of Lavaca and Matagorda Bays**

**Contract 019**

Performing Party Representative:

Dr. Paul A. Montagna  
Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5869  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5869  
Telephone: 361-825-2040  
Email: [Paul.Montagna@tamucc.edu](mailto:Paul.Montagna@tamucc.edu)

Contract Period: 01 February 2022 – 31 August 2025

Reporting Period: 01 November 2023 to 31 January 2024  
Date of submission: 31 January 2024

SUBMITTED TO:

Steven J. Raabe, P.E.  
Trustee, Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust  
PO Box 1269  
Poth, TX 78147-1269  
Via Email to: [Trustee@mbmTrust.com](mailto:Trustee@mbmTrust.com)

## **II. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS:**

There are two tasks for this project:

Task 1): Sediment Quality Triad (SQT) analysis. 24 stations will be sampled and analyzed for sediment chemistry, toxicity, and biodiversity.

Task 2): Data Management, Reporting, and Outreach Engagement. Quarterly Progress Reports: within 10 days of the end of each annual quarter: Q1 = 10 May 2022, Q2 = 10 August 2022, Q3 = 10 November 2022, Q4 = 10 February 2023, Q5 = 10 May 2023, Q6 = 10 August 2023, Q7 = 10 November 2023, Q8 = 10 May 2024, Q9 = 10 August 2024. The Final Report = August 31, 2024. Public engagement.

## **III. STATUS OF TASKS:**

Task 1): Task complete last quarter.

Task 2): In progress. Seventh quarterly report submitted.

First draft of journal article prepared and reviewed by three NOAA employees, as required prior to submission to a journal.

## **IV. PLAN FOR NEXT QUARTER:**

Task 1): Complete.

Task 2): Submit a quarterly reporting. Complete writing the final report and submit a journal article. Present result of study at meetings.

## **V. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:**

Manuscript submission was delayed, and I requested a no-cost-extension was granted on December 12, 2023 so that the final report is now due August 31, 2024.

## **VI. ADHERENCE TO PROJECT TIMELINE:**

- A. Explanation of delays (if any): Review of first draft of manuscript and submission to a journal has taken longer than expected.
- B. Anticipated delays: None expected.