



MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

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MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST ANNOUNCES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR 2025-2026 FUNDING CYCLE

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 Consent Decree was entered into that included Formosa's commitment to undertake engineering changes, future monitoring, mitigation payments for future infractions, and remediation of past discharges. The Consent Decree also provided for the 2020 establishment of an independent trust known as the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust, funded by Formosa, 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 Trustee of the Trust.

Today, the Trustee announces the opening of its 2025-2026 Request for Proposals period where governmental and public educational entities, along with non-profit organizations, are invited to submit proposals for environmental mitigation projects, environmental studies, public education,

public access initiatives, habitat restoration, and environmental advocacy projects in the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay ecosystems. The deadline for submitting proposals is 5PM, October 14, 2025, and all proposals must be submitted online through the Trust website.

In his announcement of the launching of this sixth funding cycle, Raabe stated, “The Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust’s funding priorities continue to be focused on the areas of public education, youth camps, public access improvement, environmental research and advocacy, as well as habitat restoration. Our mission and purpose are unchanged, and we remain focused on funding efforts to study and restore the ecosystems of the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay Systems, including the sensitive river deltas feeding into those important systems.”

This 2025-2026 funding cycle will include a *general* call for proposals for the stated priorities as well as a *specific* call for proposals for the continuation of mitigation projects specifically defined in the Consent Decree dated December 9, 2019.

For the general call for proposals, the maximum anticipated single project award amount is \$750,000.00. While there is no local match requirement, matching funds in the form of in-kind services or cash are desirable.

The specific call for proposals provides for the continuation of the defined mitigation projects originally identified by the Federal Court as a result of its 2019 declaratory judgement and resulting Consent Decree.

Since its inception in 2020, the Trust has awarded 101 contracts, totaling \$49,045,643, for a wide range of environmental projects in the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay areas.

This current Request for Proposals is the sixth annual funding cycle to which Raabe states, “We continue to be encouraged that the Trust’s investment in these projects will have a real and lasting impact on the future of our Bay Systems.”

Proposal documents, the Consent Decree, and further information can be found on the Trust’s website at:

<https://mbmtrust.com>

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