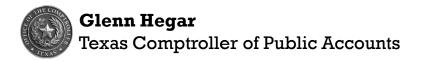


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## Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment

Chelsea Jones Sr. Research Analyst Natural Resources Program

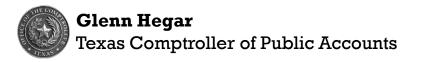




#### Natural Resources Program

The program collaborates with communities & stakeholders to identify knowledge gaps and support ecological research to contribute to the ESA listing process and long-term conservation strategies.





#### Natural Resources Program

- 24 research projects
- 12 species and habitats

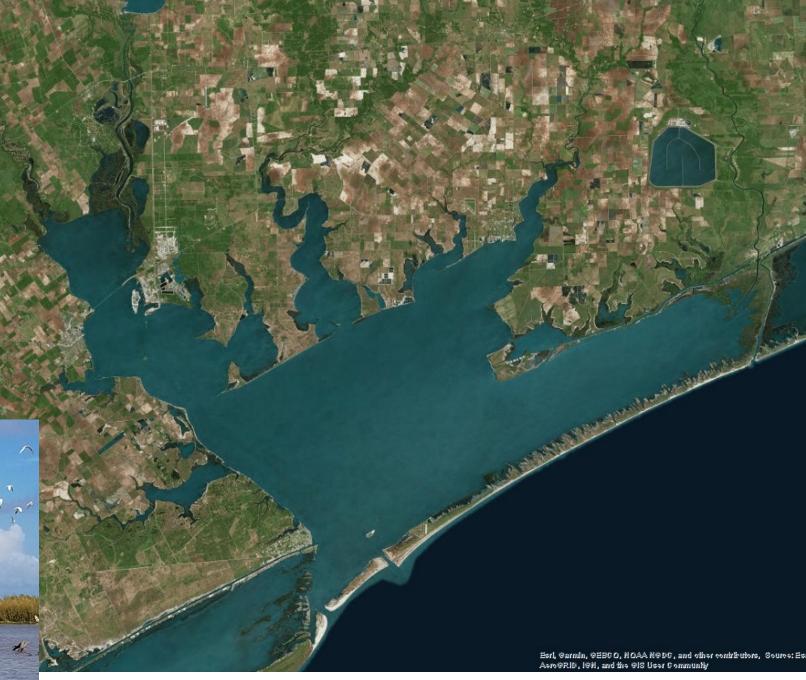


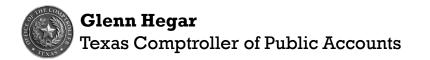


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## **Project Goals**

1. inform the development of conservation strategies for endangered sea turtles

2. explore potential conservation strategies and priority areas for bird species of interest concerning potential impacts from flooding and sea level rise.

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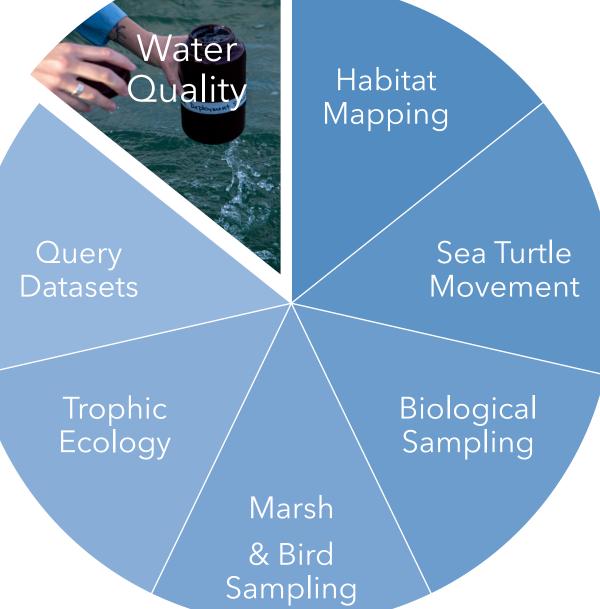
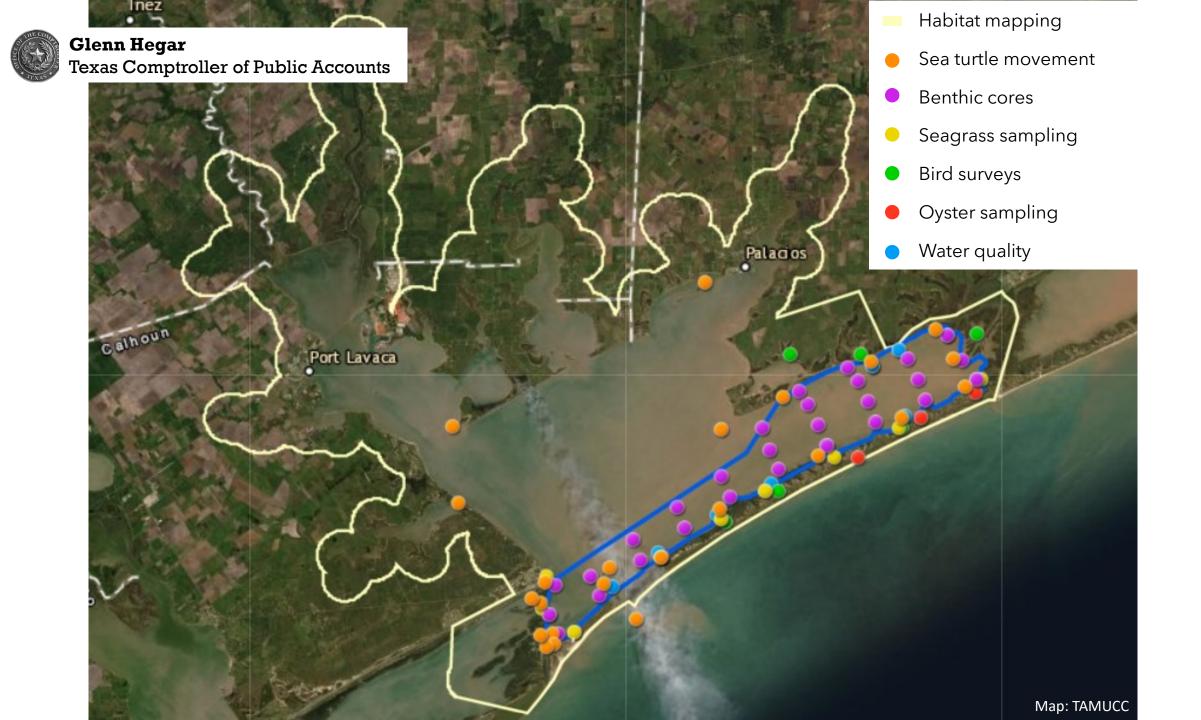
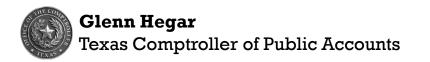


Photo credit: TAMUCC, Pollack Lab

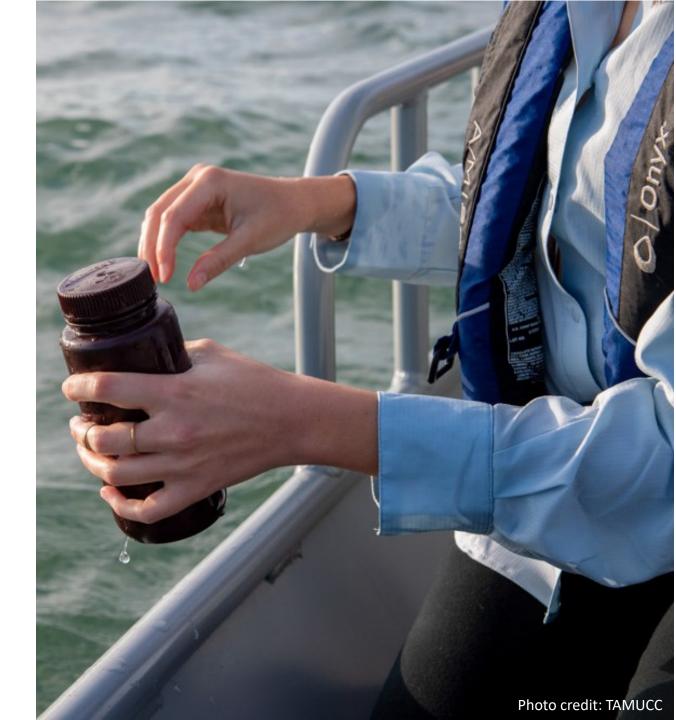


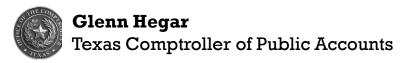


## Water Quality Goals:

Evaluate the influence of habitat arrangement & water quality on habitat suitability

- monthly, seasonal, and weather-related sampling
- Long-term trend analysis





# Monthly sampling:

- Temperature
- Salinity
- Dissolved oxygen
- pH
- Chlorophyll
- Nutrients
- Dissolved organic matter

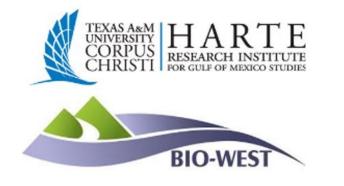
#### Long-term trend analysis

- TCEQ water quality monitoring
- TPWD biological monitoring data





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#### More information:

StoryMap: <u>Chapter 1. Introduction</u> <u>Chapter 2. Open Waters</u>

Project Webpage: <u>Natural Resources</u> <u>Sportfish Center</u> Contact: <u>chelsea.jones@cpa.texas.gov</u> or <u>sign up for our listserv</u>

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