

September 7, 2021

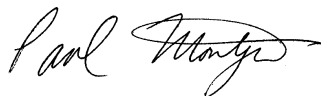
Steven J. Raabe, P.E.
Trustee, Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust
PO Box 1269
Poth, TX 78147-1269

RE: Quarterly Progress Report for the period 6/1/2021 – 8/31/2021 for Project 016.

Dear Mr. Raabe,

Please find enclosed the following deliverable: Quarterly Progress Report for the project “Evaluation of the Proposal for Widening and Deepening the Matagorda Ship Channel” Contract No. 016.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Montagna, Ph.D.
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

I. TITLE, CONTRACT INFORMATION, AND CONTACTS:

**Evaluation of the Proposal for Widening and Deepening the
Matagorda Ship Channel**

Contract 016

Performing Party Representative:

Dr. Paul A. Montagna

Dr. James Gibeaut

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

Contract Period: 01 June 2021 – 31 September 2021

Reporting Period: 01 June to 30 August 2021

Date of submission: 7 September 2021

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

II. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS:

There are four tasks for this project:

Task 1): Ecological assessment on smothering by dredge spoil placement, turbidity during construction, and mercury mobilization.

Task 2): Physical assessment on circulation, salinity, and groundwater changes.

III. STATUS OF TASKS:

Task 1): In progress. Completed sections on dredge spoil placement, turbidity effects, and mercury mobilization dredge spoil placement. In addition, added a unplanned section on plastics and microplastics when we discovered a link between mercury and plastics.

Task 2): In progress. Completed sections on groundwater.

IV. PLAN FOR NEXT QUARTER:

Task 1): Complete final report by integrating sections.

Task 2): Complete sections on circulation, salinity, and storm surge. Complete final report by integrating sections.

V. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

None.

VI. ADHERENCE TO PROJECT TIMELINE:

A. Explanation of delays (if any): No delays.

B. Anticipated delays: None expected.