

Quarterly Progress Report: Assessment of PFAS concentrations and loadings in the Lavaca Bay watershed

Contract No. 071

Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas Water Resources Institute

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Investigators:

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Reporting Period: Q5, 2025-09-01 through 2025-11-30

Summary of Q5 Updates:

Sampling and analysis work is continuing. Our graduate student, Chloe Rodriguez, presented some preliminary data at the Coastal Solutions Symposium at TAMU CC.

Task 1. Project Administration:

The project team is continuing to work with Texas A&M Sponsored Research Services to ensure reports, status updates, invoices and other obligations are delivered on time.

Task 2. Data Collection and Laboratory Analysis:

The field team collected samples on 9/16, 10/8, and 11/14 with no major issues to report. QC samples indicate no major issues.

PFAS analysis of water and soil samples is continuing. Nutrient and TOC analysis has been completed for all samples collected to date.

Task 3. Data Analysis

No major work to report. Data workbooks are being maintained and updated as lab results come in. Preliminary data shows PFBS present in the majority of water samples processed to date (72%) and PFBA in 24% of samples. PFOA and PFOS have been detected in sediments but not in any of the water samples. None of the detected PFAS exceed EPA's advisory benchmarks. We have not processed enough data to establish any statistical relationships between environmental factors and PFAS concentrations.

Task 4. Project Outreach

Chloe Rodriguez presented a talk and poster at the Coastal Solutions Symposium at TAMU CC. An abstract is being prepared for the Universities Council on Water Research conference being held in San Antonio this June.