

## Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust – Progress Report

**Project Name:** A research and monitoring program to mitigate the impact of harmful algal blooms on the Matagorda Bay and San Antonio Bay ecosystems

**P.I.:** Michael Wetz, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

**Contract No.:** 0014

**Reporting Period:** 9/1/2024-11/30/2024

### Task 1: Real-time, high frequency detection of HABs and other phytoplankton.

Status of the task during this reporting period:  not started  in progress  completed

- Describe major accomplishments for this reporting period.
  - Field deployment of Imaging FlowCytobot 9/25/24 to 10/7/2024 and 10/17/2024 to 11/15/2024
  - Detection of low and elevated numbers of *Karenia* cells from 10/28-11/11, peaking 10/31 to 11/02 - reported to TPWD and DSHS every few days during the event
- List the deliverable(s)/milestone(s) completed during this reporting period.
  - Nothing to report
- Were there any problems or obstacles encountered during this reporting period (e.g., delays, remedial action taken, schedule revision).  Yes  No If yes, please explain:
- Briefly describe plans for the next reporting period.
  - Synthesize existing data and complete final report.
  - Continued Imaging FlowCytobot deployment after maintenance

### Task 2: Water sampling program for HABs and relevant environmental conditions.

Status of the task during this reporting period:  not started  in progress  completed

- Describe major accomplishments for this reporting period.
  - Nothing to report.
- List the deliverable(s)/milestone(s) completed during this reporting period.
  - Nothing to report.
- Were there any problems or obstacles encountered during this reporting period (e.g., delays, remedial action taken, schedule revision).  Yes  No If yes, please explain:
- Briefly describe plans for the next reporting period.
  - Complete final report.

### Task 3: Stakeholder meetings.

Status of the task during this reporting period:  not started  in progress  completed

- Describe major accomplishments for this reporting period.

- Drs. Wetz and Beecraft were part of the planning and facilitation team for a “Texas Harmful Algal Bloom Seminar” hosted at the Texas State Aquarium and coordinated by the TSA Wildlife Rescue Center, October 23, 2024. This included a presentation on routine coastal harmful algal bloom monitoring needs in Texas, as informed by data collected in this study and related studies. The workshop was open to attendees from a variety of community, stakeholder and agency groups, including from the Matagorda and San Antonio Bay regions.
- List the deliverable(s)/milestone(s) completed during this reporting period.
  - A copy of the Texas State Aquarium public presentation will be submitted along with the final report.
- Were there any problems or obstacles encountered during this reporting period (e.g., delays, remedial action taken, schedule revision).  Yes  No If yes, please explain:
- Briefly describe plans for the next reporting period.
  - Share sampling and mitigation recommendations (final report) with stakeholders in the Matagorda and San Antonio Bay regions.