



## Valuing Freshwater Inflows in Texas Workshop

November 16, 2007

Hilton Austin Airport

The Houston Advanced Research Center's *Valuing Nature in Texas* program, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI) at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, and the Texas Living Waters Project invite you to attend a workshop to discuss the economic link between freshwater inflows and the preservation of the coastal wetland and estuarine ecosystems.

The purpose of the workshop is to bring together community organizations, water managers, business organizations, state and local agency representatives, and researchers to discuss economic and social perspectives of natural resource protection in Texas, especially water resources. The results and broader applicability of a recent study that estimates the economic value of freshwater inflows into San Antonio Bay and the Rio Grande estuary will be highlighted.

A highlight of the meeting will include keypad polling of participants to define the research agenda for future studies using economic and non-economic techniques to estimate the value of the real but intangible benefits of Texas' natural resources.

**Date:** Friday, November 16, 2007  
**Time:** 9:30 AM to 4 PM  
**Location:** Hilton Austin Airport  
9515 Hotel Drive  
Austin, Texas 78719  
512-385-6767

The workshop is free of charge. Lunch for all participants will be provided.

**Please RSVP by Friday, November 9th** by completing the registration form attached and returning it via email to [brobinson@harc.edu](mailto:brobinson@harc.edu) or by fax (281) 363-7935.

We hope that you will be able to attend this event and contribute your expert knowledge on this important issue.

If you require further information about the workshop please contact Marilu Hastings at (281) 364-4021 or [mhastings@harc.edu](mailto:mhastings@harc.edu)



## Program

- 9:30 to 10:00**      **Coffee and registration**
- 10:00 to 10:30**      Welcome and introductions  
*Marilu Hastings, HARC*
- Valuing Nature in Texas program overview  
*Marilu Hastings, HARC*
  - Texas Living Waters Project overview  
*Myron Hess, National Wildlife Federation*
  - Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies overview  
*Paul Montagna, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi*
- 10:30 to 12:00**      Economic valuation of natural resources and ecosystem services
- Overview of freshwater inflows issue in Texas bays and estuaries  
*Paul Montagna, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi*
  - The economics of freshwater inflows and ecosystem services  
*David Yoskowitz, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi*
  - Case studies: San Antonio Bay and Rio Grande Estuary  
*David Yoskowitz, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Eric Biltonen, Environmental Economist, HARC*
- 12:00 to 1:00**      **Lunch**
- 1:00 to 1:30**      National perspectives on environmental economics research needs
- U.S. EPA's environmental economics research strategy  
*Brian Heninger, U.S. EPA (invited)*
  - Defining the parameters of environmental economics studies: what environmental endpoints are we trying to value?  
*Juha Siikamäki, Resources for the Future*



- 1:30 to 2:00** Non-economic values of natural resources and ecosystem services: perspectives from the social sciences
- Putting the “social” in socio-economic valuation studies  
*Pris Weeks, HARC*
  - Valuing water resources across traditional boundaries  
*Irene Klaver, University of North Texas*
- 2:00 to 2:15** **Break**
- 2:15 to 4:00** Keypad polling and discussion
- 4:00** **Close and adjourn**

**VALUING FRESHWATER INFLOWS IN TEXAS WORKSHOP**  
**Hilton Austin Airport, Violet Crown Meeting Room**  
**9515 Hotel Drive, Austin, Texas 78719**  
**November 16, 2007**  
**9:30am to 4pm**

**Registration Form**

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**Meeting Attendee:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Meal Requests:**

Vegetarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form by Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> to:  
Becky Robinson: brobinson@harc.edu or fax to 281-363-7935

### Directions to Hotel

From the South: IH 35 North to Highway 71 East. Exit Airport Cargo Exit. Turn right at Spirit of Texas Drive/Terminal Drive and left at New Airport Drive.

From the North: IH 35 South to 183 South to Highway 71 East. Exit Airport Cargo Exit. Turn right at Spirit of Texas Drive/Terminal Drive and left at New Airport Drive.

From the East: HWY 71 West to Airport/Airport Cargo Exit, turn left at Spirit of Texas Drive/Terminal Drive and left at New Airport Drive.

From the West: HWY 71 East to Airport/Airport Cargo Exit, turn right at Spirit of Texas Drive/Terminal Drive and left at New Airport Drive.

### Local Map

