

## SOIL AND PLANT SCIENCE DIVISION

# Technical Soil Services

## South Central Soil Survey Region

### **Rosenburg, Texas, MLRA Soil Survey Office**

## **Coastal Zone Soil Survey Outreach at Living Shores Tech Transfer Workshop in Galveston, Texas**

### **Purpose**

Stacey Kloesel, soil scientist from the Rosenberg, Texas, MLRA Soil Survey Office, provided outreach in Galveston, Texas, during the week of October 23 at the 2023 Living Shorelines Tech Transfer Workshop presented by Restore America's Estuaries and the Galveston Bay Foundation. The event was a gathering of professionals with a shared interest in restoring and preserving our coastal and estuarian habitats.

### **Background**

The 2023 Living Shorelines Tech Transfer Workshop took place at Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center in Galveston, Texas. More than 250 participants assembled to share innovative developments of living shorelines and nature-based shoreline stabilization, practices taking place on our coastal environments, and ideas and knowledge about restoration and preservation. Attendees included the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Texas General Land Office, Ducks Unlimited, the National Wildlife Federation, the NRCS, colleges, universities, and nonprofit organizations. The presentations were informative and included participant breakout sessions with topics such as living shoreline design and materials, trends in innovation, and legal and permitting concerns.

Participants were offered field trip options to local living shorelines, nature preserves, marsh restoration and shoreline protection practice sites, and the Texas A&M University at Galveston campus.

The NRCS served as a sponsor to the Living Shorelines Tech Transfer Workshop and served the event through representation, a booth with a coastal zone soil survey display, and handouts and information on a wide range of topics.

## Key Outcomes

This workshop was productive, enlightening, and inspirational. Participants made essential networking contacts and shared technical knowledge about coastal environments that can help enhance the well-being of our coastal environments and communities. The NRCS provided input into these discussions and showcased the scientific resources available through our agency. Participants walked away with a broader knowledge about the impact of preserving and restoring our coastal and estuarian habitats.



Figure 1. Soil Scientist Stacey Kloesel answered questions and provided technical soil information about Coastal Zone Soil Survey and other NRCS program opportunities.





Figure 2. The USDA NRCS booth at the Living Shoreline Tech Transfer Workshop at Moody Gardens Hotel and Conservation Center in Galveston, Texas.