



Laguna Madre:

Towards a Binational Conservation Project Between Texas and Tamaulipas

The Ocean Foundation, the Laguna Madre Initiative (ILM), the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) Ocean Program and Texas A&M University at Galveston are organizing a one-week seminar (2:00 hours per day) for developing a binational agenda for research, conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of the Laguna Madre on both sides of the border.

The seminar will be structured in four working sessions (Monday to Thursday) and one closing event (Friday). In each of the working sessions one rapporteur will be appointed to present the results on the closing session on Friday.

Each of the presenters of the working sessions will be requested to respond four questions:

- State of knowledge
- Threats and challenges
- Connectivity and common issues between the US and the Mexican side of Laguna Madre
- Research questions and opportunities for bilateral cooperation

Panelists and rapporteurs will be required to present an abstract for responding to these questions, that will be published in the seminar proceedings.

Monday, 29 (8:00 – 10:00 CST   9:00 – 11:00 EST) Abiotic and biotic system		
Time	Presentation	Speaker
15m   8:00-8:15	Welcome to the seminar	Diego Gil   TAMUG
15 m   8:15-8:30	Challenges affecting the health of the Texas Laguna Madre ecosystem	Mike Wetz   TAMUCC
15m   8:30-8:45	Hydrogeological conditions at the south side of Laguna Madre, Tamaulipas	Sergio Salinas   ECOSUR
15m   8:45-9:00	Lessons of bilateral cooperation from the Colorado River	Francisco Zamora   Sonoran Institute
15m   9:00-9:15	Conservation of ecosystems at the Mexican side of laguna Madre	Carlos Zamora   UAT
15m   9:15-9:30	Mangroves of northern Tamaulipas: description, conservation, and restoration	Jorge Herrera y Claudia Teutli   Cinvestav
30m   9:30-9:45	Clarifications for the rapporteur and discussion table	Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM
15m   9:45-10:00	Closure of the day and general announcements for the rest of the week	Diego Gil   TAMUG

<b>Tuesday, 30 (8:00 – 10:00 CST   9:00 – 11:00 EST) Biotic system: Ecology and Species</b>		
Time	Presentation	Speaker
15m   8:00-8:15	Welcome and summary of the previous day	Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM
15m   8:15-8:30	Biotic and abiotic drivers of mangrove expansion and contraction on the lower Texas coast	Anna Armitage   TAMUG
15m   8:30-8:45	Importance of Serpulid reef to the functioning of the Baffin Bay ecosystem	Jennifer Pollack   TAMUCC
15m   8:45-9:00	The state of conservation of Ecosystems in Laguna Madre	Leonardo Arellano   UAT
15m   9:00-9:15	Shorebirds in Laguna Madre	David Newstead   CBBEP
15m   9:15-9:30	Sea turtles in U.S. Laguna Madre – Work by: Donna Shaver, Jennifer Shelby Walker, Hilary Frandsen, and Cynthia Rubio	Donna Shaver   NPS
15m   9:30-9:45	Seaturtles in Laguna Madre and Rancho Nuevo: conservation and connectivity	Martha López Hernández   CONANP
10m   9:45-10:00	Clarifications for the rapporteur, discussion table and closure	Diego Gil   TAMUG

<b>Wednesday, 1st (8:00 – 10:00 CST   9:00 – 11:00 EST) Socio-economic system: Local communities and fisheries and aquaculture.</b>		
Time	Presentation	Speaker
15m   8:00-8:15	Welcome and summary of the previous day	Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM
15m   8:15-8:30	Fish and shark movements on the Texas Coast	Mariah Livernois   TAMUG
10m   8:30-8:45	Marine fisheries monitoring in South Texas	Perry Trial and Jason Ferguson   TPWD
15m   8:45-9:00	Fish Populations and fisheries in Laguna Madre Tamaulipas	Alejandro Gonzalez CRIP-INAPESCA
15m   9:00-9:15	Challenges for the Conservation Law Enforcement in the Laguna Madre.	Ellis Powel   TPWD.
15m   9:15–9:45	Roundtable – Voices from the communities: a conversation with fishing people in the Gulf of Mexico  Moderator: Enrique Sanjurjo	Tamaulipas: Javier and José (TBC)   Vision for the users of Laguna Madre  Alabama: Ryan Bradley   Commercial Fisheries United – ELI invitee
15m   9:45-10:00	Clarifications for the rapporteur and discussion table and closure	Xiao Recio   ELI

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> (8:00 – 10:00 CST   9:00 – 11:00 EST) Conservation, restoration, and management-		
Time	Presentation	Speaker
15m   8:00-8:15	Welcome and summary of the previous day	Xiao Recio   ELI
15m   8:15-8:30	Opportunities for Bilateral Conservation in Laguna Madre	Gerardo Gold   TAMU
15m   8:30-8:45	Conservation actions in Tamps	David Lerma Quiroga (CONANP)
15m   8:45-9:00	Natural History of Laguna Madre system (both sides of the border)	Kim Withers  TAMUCC
15m   9:00-9:15	Connectivity in the region and importance of joint action	Matthew Johnson   NOAA, SEFSC
15m   9:15-9:30	ELI projects in the Gulf of Mexico	Amy Reed  ELI
15m   9:30-9:45	Conservation projects in Laguna Madre Tamaulipas	Adrian Varela   PNE
30m   9:45-10:00	Clarifications for the rapporteur and discussion table and closure	Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> (8:00 – 10:00 CST   9:00 – 11:00 EST) Building a Bilateral Agenda		
Time	Presentation	Speaker
10m   8:00-8:10	Welcome words	Pablo Arenas   INAPESCA
	<b>Report from the working sessions</b>	
10m   8:10-8:20	Report from the session of abiotic system	Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM
10m   8:20-8:30	Report from the session of the biotic system	Diego Gil   TAMUG
10m   8:30-8:40	Report from the session of the socio-economic system	Xiao Recio   ELI
10m   8:40-8:50	Report from the session of conservation, restoration	Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM
10m   8:50-9:00	Clarification questions	All participants
	<b>Round Table: Binational collaboration</b>	
10m   9:00-9:15	History of Binational Cooperation for Laguna Madre	Rosario Álvarez   PNE
10m   9:15-9:30	Challenges and opportunities for the participation of the private sector	Enrique Ramos   CANACINTRA
20m   9:30-9:45	Concluding remarks from special invitees from private foundations and collaboration agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Spalding  Ocean Foundation.</li> <li>• Mario Gómez  FUNMARES</li> <li>• Ana Barillas  FMCN</li> </ul>
20m   9:45-10:00	Closing words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrique Sanjurjo   ILM</li> <li>• Diego Gil   TAMU</li> <li>• Xiao Recio   ELI</li> </ul>