

TEXAS

LAND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 26–28, 2025 × AUSTIN, TEXAS

Detailed Agenda

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

1:00pm – 5:00pm

Registration Open

2:00pm – 3:00pm

Ballroom A

1 CLE/TREC

Breakout Session I

[Land Conservation Includes Water Conservation](#)

Moderator - Brian Zabcik, Advocacy Director, Save Barton Creek Association

Jessica Karlsruhe, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Real Estate Advocacy & Defense Coalition

Ryan McGillicuddy, Watershed Conservation Team Leader, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Romey Swanson, Executive Director, Devils River Conservancy

Ballroom B

1 CLE/TREC

[The State of Conservation Development](#)

Jack Eure, Architect, Citaspel & Architexas

Natalie Cavellier, Attorney, Braun & Gresham

Frank Davis, Chief Conservation Officer, Hill Country Conservancy

Matt Welch, Director of Conservation, Mirasol Springs

Chennault

[Once Upon a Time: How to Tell More Memorable Stories](#)

Brandon Hayes, Founder and Principal, Bold Bison Consulting

3:00pm – 3:30pm

Break

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Ballroom A

1 CLE/TREC

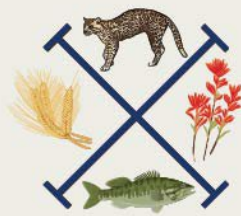
Breakout Session II

[Strategies for Voluntary Water Management and Conservation](#)

Kyle Garmany, Chief Strategy Officer, Texas Water Trade

Matt Singer, Director of Land Conservation, Galveston Bay Foundation

Marty Kelly, Natural Resource Specialist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department



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Ryan Smith, Director of Water and Science, The Nature Conservancy

Ballroom B

1 CLE/TREC

[Conservation Easements: What Keeps Landowners Up at Night](#)

Margaret Mennicucci, Attorney and Counselor, Braun & Gresham
Shane Kiefer, President & CEO, Plateau Wildlife
Carolyn Vogel, Land and Ranch Agent, Moreland Properties and
President, TX Conservation Connection LLC

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1 CLE/TREC

[Impact Investing for Conservation: How to Make it Work for You](#)

Reggie Hall, Director of Conservation Finance, Legacy Works

4:30pm – 6:00pm

Welcome Reception

Outdoor Courtyard (Atrium – inclement weather location)

Thursday, February 27, 2025

8:00am – 5:00pm

Registration Open

8:00am – 9:00am

Breakfast

9:00am – 10:30am

Ballroom A

Featured Sessions

[Current Trends and the Future of Foundation Giving for Conservation](#)

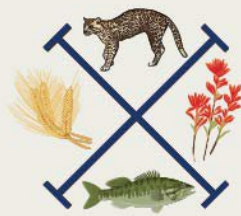
Moderator- Lori Olson, Executive Director, Texas Land Trust Council

Ellen Ray, CEO, Still Water Foundation

Anne Brown, Board Member, Horizon Foundation

Iliana Peña, Migratory Bird Conservation Program Consultant,

Knobloch Family Foundation



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Sydney Garcia, Program Associate, The Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation

Ballroom B
1 CLE/TREC

Powering a Resilient Texas: Integrating Renewable Energy with and Stewardship and Wildlife Conservation

Lisa Gonzales, Vice President & Executive Director, National Audubon Society/Audubon Texas

[Judd Messer, Vice President, Advanced Power Alliance](#)

[David Bezanson, Land Protection Strategy Director, Nature Conservancy in Texas](#)

[Ethan Winter, National Smart Solar Director, American Farmland Trust](#)

10:30am – 11:00am

Break

11:00am – 12:00pm
Del Valle

Breakout Session III

Tools for Strategic At-Risk Wildlife Conservation in Texas

[Paul Crump, Nongame and Rare Species Program Herpetologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#)

Tim Siegmund, Private Lands Program Leader, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

[Amie Treuer-Kuehn, Landscape Ecology Program Leader, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#)

Jason Singhurst, Nongame and Rare Species Program Botanist and Plant Ecologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Ballroom B
1 CLE/TREC

Ensuring a Legacy: A Guide to Thoughtful Land Succession Planning

[Jeremiah Leibowitz, Attorney, Leibowitz Law PLLC](#)

Scott Pilchard, Founder, Western Skies Advisory

[Cody Musick, CEO & Registered Surveyor, Waymaker | land Advisors & Surveyors](#)



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Ballroom A

1 CLE/TREC

Advancing Sustainable Water Policy in Texas

Moderator - Sarah Kirkle, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs,
Texas Water Association

Jennifer Walker, Senior Director, Texas Coast and Water Program,
National Wildlife Federation

Vanessa Puig-Williams, Senior Director, Climate Resilient Water
Systems, Environmental Defense Fund

Usman Mahmood, Policy Analyst, Bayou City Waterkeeper

Marie Camino, Government Relations Program Manager, The
Nature Conservancy Texas

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Volunteers: The Boots on the Ground

Karastin Katusin, Community Conservation Manager, Bayou Land
Conservancy

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Luncheon

1:00pm- 2:30pm

Ballroom

1 CLE/TREC

Plenary Session

Conservation, Climate Resilience, and Clean Energy: A Texas

Perspective on Solutions That Work

Zach Spector, TPWD Update on Centennial Parks Conservation
Fund

Keynote Address by Katharine Hayhoe, Ph.D., Chief Scientist, The
Nature Conservancy

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Break

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Ballroom A

1 CLE/TREC

Breakout Session IV

Impact of Land Fragmentation and Water Availability on Species

Distribution: A Case Study with the Texas Wood Ape



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Robert Mace, Executive Director, Texas State University - The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
Roel Lopez, Director, Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute

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Advancing Complex Land Transactions

Owen Wozniak, Land Transactions Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance
Clay Thompson, Director of Conservation and Stewardship, Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas
Darren Clark, Director of Land Conservation, Texas Agricultural Land Trust
Mary Anne Piacentini, President and CEO, Coastal Prairie Conservancy
Mark Steinbach, Executive Director, Texas Land Conservancy

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1 CLE/TREC

Wisdom of the Earth: Conservation through Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Sabrina Chapa, Executive Director, Ties to La Tierra
Alexas Ramirez, Executive Director, Traditional Center for Indigenous Knowledge and Healing
Maya Soto, Program and Communications Coordinator, Traditional Center for Indigenous Knowledge & Healing

Ballroom B

1 CLE/TREC

Conservation Opportunities: The New State Flood Plan and Nature Based Solutions

Moderator - Todd Votteler, Principal, Collaborative Water Resolution LLC
Reem Zoun, Assistant Deputy Executive Administrator, Texas Water Development Board
[Justin Kozak, Nature Based Solutions Project Manager, The Nature Conservancy](#)



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4:00pm – 5:00pm **Networking Happy Hour**

Atrium

6:00pm – 8:30pm **Off-Site Networking Dinner**

Habana SOCO

Friday, February 28, 2025

8:00am – 12:00pm **Registration Open**

8:00am – 9:00am **Breakfast**

9:00am – 10:00am **Breakout Session V**

Ballroom

1 CLE/TREC

[*Capitalizing on Carbon: Where Conservation Easements and Carbon Projects Meet*](#)

Anson Howard, Attorney, Uhl Fitzsimons, PLLC

Andy James, Land Transaction Manager and Director of Additive Conservation, Texas Agricultural Land

Brad Tipper, CEO, Grassroots Carbon

Travis Croft, Program Manager, The Climate Trust

Del Valle

1 CLE/TREC

[*Resources & Solutions for Land Management*](#)

Mike Petter, Owner/President, Resource & Land Management

Garry Stephens, President/CEO, Wildlife Habitat Foundation

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[*Partners in Conservation: Centering Community in Land and Water Conservation*](#)

Marcie Bidwell, Southwest Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance

Terry Hendrick, Western Program Coordinator, Land Trust Alliance

Carolyn Stephens, Outreach and Engagement Manager, Hill Country Conservancy

Azalia Rodriguez - Co-Program Coordinator with Latino Outdoors

Austin Chapter



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Elisa Medina O'Neal - Volunteer Manager with Galveston Bay Foundation

Grace Carlin, Urban Land & Water Program Director, Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas

Marcela Strane, Watershed Wayfinder Volunteer, Galveston Bay Foundation

Theresa (Terry) Ybañez, Mission Library Community Garden Steward

10:00am – 10:30am

Break

10:30am – 12:00pm

Ballroom

1 CLE/TREC

Closing Plenary Session

[The Value of Private Lands Conservation in Texas](#)

Moderator - Jim Bradbury, Partner, James D. Bradbury, PLLC
David Yoskowitz, Executive Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Roel Lopez, Director, Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute

Gary Krause, Rancher, Krause Ranch Conservation Area

Representative Angelia Orr, Texas House (Invited)