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Schedule and Instructor Bios Inside

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conference schedule

Monday, February 11

8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 **Welcome and Introduction**
Overview of Day One
Sharon M. Mattox, Esq., Program Chair
Vinson & Elkins, Houston

8:45 **Overview and Update**
Current Trends, Issues and Practical Considerations
Sharon M. Mattox, Esq., Program Chair

9:45 Morning Break

10:00 **National Cases Spotlight**
Rapanos Fallout and *National Association of Homebuilders v. Defenders of Wildlife*
Roderick E. Walston, Esq.
Best Best & Krieger, Walnut Creek

11:00 **Lessons from the Corps**
Regulatory Tips from the Regulatory Experts
John Machol, Policy Analysis Section, Regulatory Branch
Sam J. Watson, Policy Analysis Section, Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston

12:00 Q&A Panel
Members of the Faculty

12:15 Lunch Break

1:30 **Where Wetlands Regulations Meet the Endangered Species Act**
Closing the Gap
James O. Jones, Natural Resource Program Director
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Austin

2:30 Afternoon Break

2:45 **Adaptive Management Principles and Wetlands Mitigation**
Building Sustainable Systems
Jim Gregory, Vice President and Division Manager
PBS&J, Houston

3:45 **Wetlands Construction 101**
Translating Theory, Regulations and Specifications into a Wetland
David Mahler, Co-Owner
Environmental Survey Consulting, Austin

4:45 Q&A Panel
Members of the Faculty

5:00 Adjourn

Tuesday, February 12

8:00 Continental Breakfast

8:30 **Welcome Back**
Overview of Day Two
Sharon M. Mattox, Esq., Program Chair

8:45 **401(b)(1) Guidelines and Wetlands Functional Assessment**
Overview and New Developments
Kristie M. Tice, Esq.
Vinson & Elkins, Houston

9:45 Morning Break

10:00 **Land Conservation**
Strategies to Secure Economic Value
Bradley I. Raffle, Esq., President
Conservation Capital, Houston

11:00 **Technology for the Wetlands Professional**
Wetlands Delineation and Impact Avoidance
Matthew Glen Stahman
Senior Project Manager and Professional Wetland Scientist
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Houston

12:00 Q&A Panel
Members of the Faculty

12:15 Lunch Break

1:30 **Texas Coastal Wetlands**
Conservation in a Changing Environment
Jarrett "Woody" Woodrow Jr., Director
Coastal Conservation Program, Austin

2:30 **Ethics**
Considerations for the Wetlands Professional
Sharon M. Mattox, Esq., Program Chair

3:30 Q&A Panel
Members of the Faculty

3:45 Evaluations and Adjourn

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February 11-12, Austin

Climate Change Law
February 28-29, Los Angeles

meet your instructors

Program Chair

Sharon M. Mattox has a broad-based background in environmental litigation at both the trial and appellate levels. She has been extensively involved in environmental issues affecting land use, including wetlands, cultural resources, hazardous substances, endangered species and floodplains. She has chaired CLE International's Texas Wetlands Conference for 18 years.

Jim Gregory manages the Central Sciences and Planning Division, which is comprised of 10 programs and approximately 100 staff in Texas and Louisiana. He works with a variety of clients in the energy, transportation, infrastructure, conservation, planning and development industries. His technical expertise relates to most facets of wetland issues, protected species and the NEPA process where he has served as an expert and fact witness for several hearings and depositions. He has been consulting on wetland issues since 1988.

James O. Jones has 30 years of experience in environmental management and environmental regulation. He was a founding member of the regulatory program of the Corps in the Galveston District. He has served as a guest instructor for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff training courses and has testified before the Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

John Machol has 29 years of experience in the environmental arena and is a Certified Professional Wetland Scientist. He helps manage his District's regulatory program by developing, administering and implementing program and policy initiatives.

David Mahler is the ecologist for his company, which specializes in wetland and water feature construction, habitat restoration, native plant landscaping, and park and trail planning, installation and interpretation. He was a founding board member of the Society For Ecological Restoration International and has been a pioneer in habitat restoration and wetland construction in central Texas

Bradley I. Raffle runs a land development and conservation finance company that elevates the value of undeveloped or underdeveloped land. This is achieved by combining new markets for environmental mitigation and ecological services with revenues derived from traditional sources of conservation funding, residential development and natural resource extraction.

Matthew Glen Stahman has over 10 years of experience doing wetland delineations and permitting, threatened and endangered species assessments, NEPA environmental assessments and impact statements, FERC filings and obtaining various other state and federal environmental permits. His experience includes environmental compliance consulting for various industries, including oil and gas, public transportation, telecommunications, electric utility, coal mining, and land development projects.

Kristie M. Tice has a broad-based environmental practice that includes counseling clients on environmental issues affecting land use, including wetlands, endangered species, and coastal consistency issues, as well as representing clients in permitting and enforcement matters before state and federal agencies. She has extensive experience in environmental and toxic tort litigation, at both the trial and appellate levels. She advises clients on environmental issues in real estate and other transactions.

Roderick E. Walston offices in his firm's Walnut Creek, California, office. He entered private practice after spending most of his legal career as a government attorney. He most recently served as both Acting Solicitor and Deputy Solicitor of the U.S. Department of the Interior. He specializes in natural resources law and appellate litigation.

Sam J. Watson has 15 years of experience with the Corps and is currently part of its Policy Analysis section. He serves as Chair of the Galveston District Mitigation Banking Review Team.

Jarrett "Woody" Woodrow Jr. has worked for his agency's Coastal Fisheries Division for over a decade. He is the Coordinator for the Upper Coast Program Office, which reviews permits, responds to pollution events, participates in water planning, seeks restitution for fish and wildlife impacts under state and federal laws, and implements habitat restoration projects.

Tell us what you're thinking!

Do you have specific questions or topics you hope to see covered in this program? Contact CLE INTERNATIONAL Program Attorney Stacie Kelly, stacie@cle.com.

Reach your target audience!

Would you like the opportunity to exhibit at or sponsor this conference and get your name out to its many prospective and actual attendees? Contact Barbara Hollingsworth, barbara@cle.com.

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