

COLORADO RIVER VIP TOUR **2016**

Exploring the Beauty & Realities of a Shared Resource

ITINERARY

DAY ONE, Thursday, 11/17/16

- 7–8am Attendees gather at Hornsby Bend**
- 8–8:40am Welcome comments in Hornsby Bend Auditorium**
Colorado River Alliance: Brent Lyles
City of Austin: Mayor Steve Adler
LCRA: Phil Wilson
- Speakers:** Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water, and Raj Bhattarai, Environmental and Regulatory Services, Austin Water
Topic: Austin Water: A Great Upstream Neighbor
- 8:40–9:40am TRAVEL to Smithville | Bus Talks**
Speaker: Melinda Chow, Austin Youth River Watch
- Speakers:** Jon White, Travis County and Judge Paul Pape, Bastrop County
Topic: Colorado River Corridor Plan
- 9:40–10:30am STOP: Vernon L Richards Riverbend Park (Smithville)**
Speaker: Sky Lewey, Nueces River Authority
Topic: Your Remarkable Riparian
- 10:30–11:15am TRAVEL to Columbus | Bus Talk**
Speaker: Bill Lauderback, LCRA, Executive VP for Public Affairs
Topic: Update from Lower Colorado River Authority
- 11:15–1:00pm STOP: Stafford Opera House, Columbus, TX**
Lunch Panel Topic: Environmental Flows on the Colorado
Speakers:
Carlos Rubinstein, RSAH2O, Moderator
Jennifer Walker, Lone Star Sierra Club
Leslie Hartman, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Myron Hess, National Wildlife Federation
Bryan Cook, Lower Colorado River Authority
- 1:00–1:30pm TRAVEL to Eagle Lake**
- 1:30–2:00pm STOP: Eagle Lake Irrigation District, Lake Plant**
Tour: Brandon Mathis, Superintendent Irrigation Operations, Lakeside Irrigation District
- 2:00–2:30pm TRAVEL to Gertson Farms | Bus Talk**
Speaker: Ron Gertson, 5th generation rice grower
- 2:30–3:45pm TRAVEL to South Texas Project | Bus Talk**
Speaker: Brent Lyles, Colorado River Alliance
Speaker: Margaret Cook, Webber Energy Group

- 3:45–4:45pm STOP: Tour South Texas Project (Nuclear Power Generating Station)**
Tour: Sheila Davis, Corporate Communication, STP Operating Company
- 4:45–5:15pm TRAVEL to Matagorda Bay Natural Science Center**
- 5:15–6:00pm STOP: LCRA’s Matagorda Bay Natural Science Center**
Tour: Susie Baxter-Harwell, LCRA
- 6:00–7:00pm Happy Hour with Mobile River at the Natural Science Center**
- 7:00–8:30pm Dinner in Redfish Hall at Natural Science Center (Shrimp Boil!)**
 Slide show from Margie Crisp, artist and author of [River of Contrasts, the Texas Colorado](#)
- 8:30-9:00pm TRAVEL to Bay City, Overnight at Hampton Inn & Suites**

DAY TWO, Friday, 11/18/16

- 6:30-6:45 am TRAVEL to Matagorda County Birding Center (optional)**
- 6:45–7:30 Guided bird walk at Birding Center with Eva Malina**
- 7:30–7:45 TRAVEL back to hotel for check out!**
- 8:20–8:30 TRAVEL from hotel to 9er’s Grill**
- 8:30–9:30 STOP: Breakfast at 9er’s Grill and Talk with Judge Nate McDonald**
- 9:45–10:30 TRAVEL to Pierce, TX | Bus Talk**
Speaker: Dr. Robert Mace, TWDB
Topic: Mace’s Believe it or Not for the Colorado River
- 10:30–noon STOP: Tour of Pierce Ranch**
Tour: Laurance Armour
- noon–12:30pm TRAVEL to The Vineyard, Eagle Lake (lunch provided on bus)**
- 12:30–12:45pm STOP: The Vineyard, aka Duck Camp**
Speaker: Kirby Brown, Ducks Unlimited
- 12:45–1:15pm TRAVEL Columbus, TX**
- 1:15–2:30pm STOP: Beason’s Park in Colorado County**
Topic: Endangered Mussels in Texas Rivers
Speakers: Clint Robertson, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
 Gary Pandolfi and Charrish Stevens, US Fish and Wildlife Service
 Meghan Hope, Texas Comptrollers Office
- 2:40–4pm TRAVEL to Hornsby Bend | Bus Talk**
Speaker: Sharlene Leurig, Chair, Austin Water Forward
- 4pm ARRIVE at Hornsby Bend**