



Conference Prospectus

6th National Conference on Coastal
and Estuarine Habitat Restoration

**RESTORING ECOSYSTEMS,
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES**

October 20-24, 2012
Tampa, Florida



**RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES**



Printed on 30% recycled paper.

www.estuaries.org/conference



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ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Restore America's Estuaries' 6th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration is the only national conference focused on the goals and practices of coastal and estuarine habitat restoration. Estuaries and coasts are an important part of America's economy, history, and living culture. The five-day Conference will explore the state-of-the-art in all aspects and scales of restoration, and will be comprised of field sessions, plenary sessions, expert presentations, special evening events, workshops, a poster hall, and the nation's only Restoration Exposition.



Restore America's Estuaries' Conference has become an important venue for interaction with our many partners and an opportunity to hear from the highest level of leadership in the coastal conservation field. The Conference provides an invaluable learning experience for our staff and platform to share their success stories. We are proud to be a sponsor of this important event.

—**Tamara McCandless, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Coastal Program**

Cover art: American Oystercatcher painting in acrylics; contributed by Sheri Bazany, BlueCove Studio. BlueCoveStudioFL.com

The TAMPA CONVENTION CENTER

The Conference will be held at the Tampa Convention Center, October 20-24, 2012, in Tampa, Florida. Renowned for its natural beauty, legendary history, and cultural offerings, Tampa will set the dramatic background for this premier event.



Become a SPONSOR

Sponsorship of the 6th National Conference provides an exceptional opportunity to showcase your organization's products, services, and commitment to coastal and estuarine habitat restoration. Your sponsorship will open the door to a focused, richly diverse, and highly influential group of coastal restoration experts.

*If you are interested in **just** exhibiting, please see the top of page 8 for more information.*



Benefits for SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

As Sponsors and Exhibitors of the 6th National Conference, you will:

- Reach more than 1,000 participants, including decision-makers from government agencies, businesses, foundations, and non-profit, academic, tribal and grassroots organizations;
- Increase national awareness of your organization through our website, newsletter (7,500 readers), registration brochure (20,000 recipients), and Conference program (more than 1,000 participants);
- Demonstrate your organization's commitment to best practices in the restoration field; from planning and design to monitoring and evaluation, and from science and practice to partnerships and collaboration.



General

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Lead Sponsor (\$50,000 and above)

- Most prominent listing of corporate logo in all Conference printed materials and on-site at event;
- Verbal and visual recognition at Conference plenary sessions;
- 1 full-page advertisement in the Conference program;
- Most prominent and complimentary 10' x 20' exhibit booth space;
- 8 complimentary Conference registrations;
- Recognition and organizational logo hyperlink on RAE's Conference website.

Principal Sponsor (\$25,000 - \$49,999)

- Very prominent listing of corporate logo in all Conference printed materials and on-site at event;
- Verbal and visual recognition at Conference plenary sessions;
- 1 full-page advertisement in the Conference program;
- Very prominent and complimentary 10' x 10' exhibit booth space;
- 5 complimentary Conference registrations;
- Recognition and organizational logo hyperlink on RAE's Conference website.



Executive Sponsor (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

- Prominent listing of corporate logo in all Conference printed materials and on-site at event;
- Visual recognition at Conference plenary sessions;
- 1 half-page advertisement in the Conference program;
- Prominent and complimentary 10' x 10' exhibit booth space;
- 3 complimentary Conference registrations;
- Recognition and organizational logo hyperlink on RAE's Conference website.

Patron (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

- Prominent listing of corporate logo in all Conference printed materials and on-site at event;
- 1 quarter-page advertisement in the Conference program;
- Complimentary 8' x 10' exhibit booth space;
- 2 complimentary Conference registrations;
- Recognition and organizational logo hyperlink on RAE's Conference website.

Benefactor (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

- Listing in all Conference printed materials and on-site at event;
- 1 quarter-page advertisement in the Conference program;
- Complimentary 8' x 10' exhibit booth space;
- 1 complimentary Conference registration;
- Recognition on RAE's Conference website.

Supporter (\$1,800 - \$2,499)

- Listing in all Conference materials and on-site at event;
- Complimentary 8' x 10' exhibit booth space;
- 1 complimentary Conference registration;
- Recognition on RAE's Conference website.

Contributor (in-kind, donation)

- Complimentary listing in all Conference printed materials;
- Recognition on RAE's Conference website.

NRG is an active supporter of wetland restoration efforts, which has heightened my interest in the science, technology, and policy in this field. The RAE conference provides me with the opportunity to attend numerous presentations and meet key personnel and organizations. I look forward to a continued partnership with RAE.

—Ben Carmine, NRG Energy

Exclusive

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Community-based Restoration Project (\$35,000)

The Conference's community-based restoration project will take place in majestic Tampa Bay on Saturday, October 20th, and engage more than 150 volunteers, partners, and local leaders in a hands-on event, helping to restore coastal habitat in the bay.

Sponsorship benefits include:

- All benefits at the Sponsor level;
- Verbal acknowledgement during the event;
- Visual recognition during event, such as banners, posters, and display;
- Employee participation;
- Opportunity to address the project participants during event.

Past sponsors have included: Marathon Oil/Gulf of Mexico Foundation, Dominion, and Anheuser-Busch Companies.

Restoration Celebration (\$35,000)

All registered participants are invited to attend our famous Restoration Celebration during Tuesday evening of the Conference. Guests will have the opportunity to enjoy the finest local cuisine, live music, and gather with old and new friends—while celebrating our coasts, cultures and spirit.

Sponsorship benefits include:

- All benefits at the Sponsor level;
- Verbal/Visual acknowledgement during the event;
- Opportunity to address the group;
- Five guest tickets.

Past sponsors have included: O'Neill Properties, PBS&J, HDR, and Evans-Graves Engineers.

The RAE Conference proved again that a well-organized event that brings together the nation's best on coastal restoration issues, is a critical step in helping to understand what it takes to manage our coastlines. Agencies, interest groups, private industry were all well represented, and there is no other conference that does such a great job in bringing the range of players together.

—Tim Feather, CDM

The recent conference in Galveston was RAE's best yet. The wide variety of session topics and the quality of presentations make this conference a "don't miss" opportunity to learn and interact with technical experts from other states and often other countries. I view the RAE conference as the "ecosystem restoration" trade event and you can count on us as a sponsor for the next one in Tampa.

—Steve Mathies, State of Louisiana—
Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration



Coastal Restoration Awards Luncheon (\$35,000)

At a special plated luncheon for all Conference attendees on Tuesday, October 23rd, Restore America's Estuaries will take time to honor those who have made a significant commitment to coastal habitat restoration.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Sponsor level;
- Visual/Verbal acknowledgement during the luncheon;
- Opportunity to address the lunch audience;
- Invitation for five guests to attend the event.

Past sponsors have included: National Grid.

Exclusive

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued)

President's Opening Reception (\$25,000)

The president's opening reception will kick off the official opening of the Restoration Expo/Poster Hall on Sunday evening, October 21st. While exploring the Restoration Expo and Poster Hall, Conference participants will network with fellow colleagues and enjoy light appetizers, refreshments, and live music.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Sponsor level;
- Visual acknowledgement during the reception;
- Five complimentary evening passes to attend event.

Past sponsors have included: ESRI and Anheuser-Busch Companies.

Climate Partner (\$25,000)

Since 2006, RAE has been committed to organizing a National Conference that is climate-neutral. RAE continues this commitment with the 6th National Conference and will offset 100% of the greenhouse gasses emitted due to Conference activities.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Sponsor level;
- Verbal acknowledgement during the Opening Plenary;
- Visual acknowledgement in the program;
- Signage on-site at the event;
- Profile story in RAE newsletter.

Past sponsors have included: NRG, Reliant Energy, and Entergy.



Conference Tote Bag (\$20,000)

The Conference tote bag has become a sought-after item at our conferences, thanks in part to the beautiful coastal painting that adorns one side. Our eco-friendly bag will be used for years to come at the grocery store, beach visits, and during leisure travel.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Patron level;
- Organizational logo on one side of the tote bag;
- Visual acknowledgement in the Conference program;
- Opportunity to place company trinkets inside;
- 50 complimentary bags for your company.

Past sponsors have included: KBR, Shell, HNTB and ARCADIS.

Monday and Wednesday Plenary (\$15,000 each)

The Conference plenary sessions provide a rich and diverse mix of insights and energy to the coastal habitat restoration movement. Past speakers have included: Denis Hayes, Nick Spitzer, Eric Higgs, Billy Frank, Michael Grunwald, Mike Tidwell, David Orr, and state and federal officials.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Sponsor level;
- Verbal/Visual acknowledgement in the program and during the respective plenary.

Past sponsors have included: ARCADIS, HDR, America's WETLAND, Texas Sponsorship Group, and the Louisiana Sponsorship Group.

The Houston Endowment was proud to support RAE's 5th National Conference. As a funder, I appreciated the caliber of speakers, the in-depth discussions of current issues and the opportunities for networking. I have no doubt that my participation will help me make more informed decisions in the future.

— Elizabeth Love, Houston Endowment

Exclusive

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued)



Restoration Field Sessions (\$15,000)

During Sunday, October 21st, registered participants will take part in many field sessions in and around Tampa Bay, learning about local restoration projects, best practices, and collaboration experiences.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Patron level;
- Verbal/Visual acknowledgement in the program and during the Field Sessions.

Past sponsors have included: Apache Eco Service, EA Engineering, Science, and Technology

Poster Happy Hour(s) (\$10,000 for one or \$15,000 for two)

During the Poster Happy Hours, presenters mingle with Conference attendees, sharing their projects and experiences, while also networking with colleagues and clients in the Expo/Poster Hall.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Patron level;
- Visual acknowledgement in the program and during the Poster Happy Hour.

Past sponsors have included: Cheniere and Anheuser-Busch Companies.

Internet Café (\$10,000)

Providing complimentary internet and printing services, the Internet Café is a major draw for visitors to the Restoration Expo/Poster Hall and a significant driver of traffic to your booth inside the Convention Center.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Patron level;
- Placement of organizational logo on backboard of internet kiosks;
- Strategic placement of organizational trinkets and banner inside Internet Café;
- Placement of organizational materials on the desktop/screensaver of each computer.

Past sponsors have included: Chesapeake Bay Program (EPA), and Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Strong cross sector networks are key to effective, solution-oriented conservation. RAE changes the game for non-profit coastal restoration efforts by serving as a hub for the exchange of ideas and information among a broad range of government, NGO, and for profit organizations. LightHawk's effectiveness is greatly enhanced by the context gained, relationships built, and information shared at RAE conferences every two years.

—Kelley Tucker, LightHawk

Exclusive

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued)

Continental Breakfast(s) **(\$5,000 for one or \$12,000 for three)**

During Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings of the Conference, attendees will join together inside the Expo/Poster Hall to enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Benefactor or Patron level depending on level of sponsorship support;
- Placement of organizational logo near breakfast tables.

Past sponsors have included: ARCADIS, Malcolm Pirnie, HESS, and Tetra Tech

Coffee Break(s) **(\$3,500 each or \$15,000 for all six)**

Sponsor one or all six coffee breaks, and take advantage of immediate visibility and acknowledgement. Sponsoring all six coffee breaks includes benefits at the Patron level, and sponsorship of one coffee break includes all benefits at the Benefactor level.

Sponsorship recognition includes:

- All benefits at the Patron or Benefactor level (depending on level of sponsorship support);
- Strategic placement of organizational logo on/near tables.

Past sponsors have included: HESS, and Tetra Tech.



RAE's 5th National Conference was a great experience for us to network and learn. I was impressed with the sense of cooperation and collaboration among attendees, all united for the common goal of improving and preserving the coastal systems through their various resources. We look forward to our continued involvement with RAE and its members.

—Charles Lyons, KBR



Exhibitor

OPPORTUNITIES



With more than 125 exhibitors expected, the Restoration Expo provides Conference participants with direct access to essential products, services, people, programs, and ideas. Join leading businesses, government agencies, non-profit organizations, academic and research institutions, product providers and others in showcasing your merchandise and expertise. Exhibitors represent all sectors and all aspects of coastal restoration.

Exhibiting at RAE Conference (\$1,300)

- One 8' x 10' exhibit booth space;
- 1 complimentary Conference registration;
- Exhibitor listing in Conference program;
- Recognition on RAE's Conference website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Founded in 1995 and established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in 1999, Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) serves as a national alliance of 11 community-based organizations that protect and restore coastal and estuarine habitat.

www.estuaries.org

Photos contributed by CK Productions, Tampa Convention Center/Tampa Bay & Company, Harvey Potts, Peter Clark and Christie Connell.