



BIOGRAPHY

PAUL A. MONTAGNA, PH.D.

Paul Montagna retired from the Endowed Chair for Ecosystem Studies and Modeling and is now the Chair for Hydroecology at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Previously, he was a Professor at the University of Texas at Austin, Marine Science Institute from 1986 – 2006, where he was the creator and founding manager of the Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve in 2006. He has also been the Co-Editor in Chief for the journal *Estuaries and Coasts* since 2017. Dr. Montagna is a marine ecologist whose research discovers how benthic ecosystems work, and how that information guides resource management decision-making. His research focuses on 2 major themes: effects of freshwater inflow on estuaries, and effects of offshore oil & gas activities on continental shelves and the deep sea. He has consulted to set inflow standards in California, Florida and Texas; worked with the U.S. State Department, Agency for International Development, to develop inflow guidelines to protect the coastal zone of developing countries; and is developer and editor of the “Freshwater Inflow Tools” website, which serves decision-making. He led the technical work on the effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill on deep-sea soft-bottom communities as part of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) program. He has won the William A. Niering Outstanding Educator Award (Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation), the Conservation & Environmental Stewardship Award (Coastal Bend Bays Foundation), and Senior Guest Scientist Award (French NATO program). He has mentored 45 graduate students and 21 post docs. He has authored or coauthored 2 books, 143 peer-reviewed articles and 25 chapters, and 120 technical reports. He was recently named as one of the top 2% of all scientists in the world (<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000918>).