WESTERN DREDGING ASSOCIATION - GULF COAST CHAPTER
Annual Conference Presented by: CALLAN MARINE, Ltd.
Galveston, Texas

CALLAN MARINE
...safety...integrity...quality...

WEDNESDAY - 04 NOVEMBER 2026
Texas A&M University - Galveston, Waterfront Pavilion & Amphitheater, 1001 Texas Clipper Road, Galveston, TX 77554

Time	Min.	Event	Speaker / Organization
12:30 PM	2 hrs	Early Registration Available	Grand Galvez
5:00 PM	3 hrs	Icebreaker Social - Sponsored by: *GLDD* Tour of TS LONE STAR STATE Texas A&M University - Galveston	Captain Allan Post Deputy Superintendent, Texas A&M Maritime Academy

Thursday - 05 NOVEMBER 2026
Grand Galvez, 2024 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston, TX 77550

Time	Min.	Event	Speaker / Organization
7:30 AM	1 hr	Registration - Sponsored by: *LLOYD ENGINEERING*	Breakfast - Sponsored by: *PORT HOUSTON*
8:30 AM	10	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Dave Allen President, WEDA Gulf Coast Chapter
8:40 AM	10	FY2027 Galveston District Commander's Vision	Byron Williams - Galveston District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
8:50 AM	20	Fiscal Year 2027 - Appropriations and WRDA Outlook	Jen Armstrong Waterways Council, Inc.
9:10 AM	30	The Future of USACE Contracting for Dredging Centralized Procurement and New Acquisition Strategies	Dylan Davis - Navigation Businessline Manager South Atlantic Division, USACE
9:40 AM	15	Galveston District's FY-27 OM Dredging Program	Sara Knoll - Galveston District USACE
9:55 AM	20	*Break*	
10:15 AM	15	Mobile District's FY-27 OM Dredging Program	Herbert Bullock - Mobile District USACE
10:30 AM	15	New Orleans District's FY-27 OM Dredging Program	Ashley Wainright - New Orleans District USACE
10:45 AM	15	Tampa Harbor Channel Improvement Project	Manny Vianzon - Jacksonville District - USACE Jose DeJesus - Port Tampa Bay
11:00 AM	15	Lone Star Habor Committee - Dredging Contractor Coordination	Nathan Hough - Lone Star Harbor Safety Committee Darren Shelton - Gal/TC Subcommittee Chairman Alberto Hernandez - Houston Vessel Traffic Service
11:15 AM	15	Non-Nuclear Production Meter for Dredging Equipment	Kent Wei - Process Flow Intelligence
11:30 AM	90	**Lunch at Grand Galvez** **Stan Ekren** - President WEDA National **Bob Koch** - Chief, Waterways Management Section - USACE Galveston District - User Interface of Operations Dashboard **Brian Puckett** - Secretary, WEDA Gulf Coast Chapter - 2026 Scholorship Presentation **Julie Hile** - WEDA National Safety Commission	
1:00 PM	30	Automation in Hydrographic Surveying & Mapping	Dan Hook - RAD Propulsion Michael Macke - Mercator Subsea Nick George - Woolpert
1:30 PM	15	Metocean and Sediment Transport Processes	Dr. Jon Marsh - Environmental Tracing
1:45 PM	15	Houston Ship Channel Project 11/12	Ramon Navarro - USACE Leia Wilson - Port Houston
2:00 PM	15	Sabine-Neches Waterway Channel Improvement Project	Carlos Tate - USACE Kyle Reed - Sabine-Neches Navigation District
2:15 PM	15	Texas A&M Galveston's Maritime Programs and Recruitment Opportunities	Captain Allan Post - TAMUG
2:30 PM	15	Coastal Protection Restoration Authority Program Update	Rudy Simoneaux Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
2:45 PM	30	*Break*	
3:15 PM	15	Freeport Harbor Channel Improvement Project	Phyllis Saathoff - Port Freeport
3:30 PM	25	Contractor Capital Investments	Frank Belesimo - Callan Marine Lynn Nietfeld - GLDD Tim Ekren - Dutra Group Chuck Broussard - Weeks Marine Charles Markham - Manson Construction
3:55 PM	5	Closing Comments	Dave Allen President, WEDA Gulf Coast Chapter
4:00 PM		*End of Day's Presentations*	
5:00 PM	90	RECEPTION - Sponsored by: *GARBER BROTHERS*	
6:30 PM	1.5hrs	**Dinner at Grand Galvez** Keynote Speaker: Captain Nicole Rodriguez Commander, Sector Houston-Galveston, U.S. Coast Guard	

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Friday - 06 NOVEMBER 2026
Grand Galvez, 2024 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston, TX 77550

Time	Min.	Event	Speaker / Organization
7:30 AM	1 hr	Registration	Breakfast: Sponsored by: *WEDA - Gulf Coast Chapter*
8:30 AM	5	Opening Remarks	Dave Allen President, WEDA Gulf Coast Chapter
8:35 AM	15	Cedar Port Section 203 Feasibility Study	Clayton Henderson TGS Cedar Port Industrial Park
8:50 AM	15	Galveston Harbor & Channel Section 203 Feasibility Study	Steven Davie Kimley-Horn Engineering
9:05 AM	15	Project Deepwater Section 203 Feasibility Study	Col. (Ret.) Timothy Vail HRD Engineering
9:20 AM	20	Ducks Unlimited - USACE Partnerships in Beneficial Use	Todd Merendino - Ducks Unlimited Rhonda Gregg-Hirsch - USACE
9:40 AM	15	Texas General Land Office - Dredging & Beneficial Use	Angela Sunley Texas General Land Office
9:55 AM	15	*Break*	
10:10 AM	30	Dredging Contractor Safety Initiatives	Devon Carlock - Moderator Hillary Franke - Encore Jacob Bures - Orion Marine Trey Taylor - Matthews Brothers
10:40 AM	20	West Galveston Bay - Barrier Island Restoration	Chris Frabotta - Callan Marine Micah Morris - Callan Marine
11:00 AM	25	Coastal Texas - Galveston Bay Storm Surge Barrier System	Toni Addison - USACE Rob Thomas - Gulf Coast Protection District Cameron Perry - HDR Engineering Rick Robertson - Jacobs Engineering
11:25 AM	5	Closing Comments	Dave Allen President, WEDA Gulf Coast Chapter
11:30 AM	30	Gulf Coast WEDA Chapter Meeting	WEDA Members
12:00 PM		*End of Conference*	