

# Nutrient properties of coastal wetland soil cores collected in June 2018 from Barataria Bay, Louisiana

**Website:** <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/840293>

**Data Type:** Other Field Results

**Version:** 1

**Version Date:** 2021-02-10

## Project

» [Fate of Coastal Wetland Carbon Under Increasing Sea Level Rise: Using the Subsiding Louisiana Coast as a Proxy for Future World-Wide Sea Level Projections](#) (Submerged Wetland Carbon)

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## Abstract

Nine coastal wetland soil cores (150cm) that were collected in June 2018 from Barataria Bay, Louisiana were analyzed for nutrients

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## Coverage

**Spatial Extent:** Lat:29.443547 Lon:-89.8998

**Temporal Extent:** 2018-06 - 2018-06

## Methods & Sampling

Nine coastal wetland soil cores were collected in June 2018 from Barataria Bay, Louisiana, a shallow open water basin located west of the Mississippi River Delta. Soil cores were collected along three transects, roughly 1 meter apart, that consisted of three points: the coastal fringe (0 m inland), 1 meter inland, and 2 meters inland. Soil cores were collected in polycarbonate tubes via the push core method to a depth of 150 cm, and

field-extruded into 15 separate 10-cm intervals. Soils were stored in polyethylene bags on ice and immediately transported back to the laboratory, where they were kept at 4 °C until sample analysis was complete.

This dataset includes analyses of nutrients.

Samples of 2.5 grams of wet soil (both from the field and from the bottle incubation) were placed into 40 mL centrifuge tubes to which 25 mL of 2 M KCl was added. Samples were then shaken continuously on an orbital shaker for 1 hour at 25 °C and 150 rpm, then centrifuged for 10 minutes at 10 °C and 5000 rpm. Following the centrifuge step, samples were immediately filtered through Supor 0.45 µm filters and acidified with double distilled H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to a pH of < 2 for preservation. Extractable nutrients (nitrate, soluble reactive phosphorus, and ammonium) were then analyzed with an AQ2 Automated Discrete Analyzer (Seal Analytical, Mequon, WI) and using EPA methods 231-A Rev.0, 210-A Rev.1, and 204-A Rev.0.

## Data Processing Description

### Data processing:

All statistical analysis was performed in R (R Institute for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria) using RStudio (RStudio Inc., Boston, MA, USA). The Shapiro-Wilk test was used to verify assumptions of normality, and a logarithmic transformation was performed on all datasets. Levene's test was used to determine homogeneity of variance. A linear mixed-effect model (package 'lmer') was used to test the following predictor variables: depth, distance inland, and the interaction of depth and distance inland on the samples collected from the marsh. Transect was included as a random effect. Distance inland was found to be a non-significant predictor variable for all parameters except for extractable NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>. As such, distance inland and the interaction of depth and distance was removed as a predictor variable from models except extractable NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>. Isotopic determinations and quantitative PCR analysis was performed exclusively on the three replicate cores taken 1 m inland, and thus depth was the only predictor variable tested for those parameters. Following determination of significance within one of the predictor variables, the package 'lsmeans' was used for post-hoc pairwise comparisons using the Tukey method.

### BCO-DMO processing:

- Added a conventional header with dataset name, PI names, version date
- Adjusted parameter names to comply with database requirements.
- Units removed and added to Parameter Description metadata section.
- Added Latitude and Longitude columns, converted DMS to DD
- Added column for Date of sample collection
- Missing data entries replaced with 'nd'

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## Data Files

File
<b>nutrients.csv</b> (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 9.06 KB) MD5:e38a8f4567bb33dc65070006024a6aed
Primary data file for dataset ID 840293

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## Related Publications

R Core Team (2018). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R v3.5.1. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URL <https://www.R-project.org/>  
*Software*

RStudio Team (2018). RStudio: Integrated Development for R. RStudio 1.1.456, PBC, Boston, MA URL <http://www.rstudio.com/>.  
*Software*

Sapkota, Y., & White, J. R. (2021). Long-term fate of rapidly eroding carbon stock soil profiles in coastal wetlands. *Science of The Total Environment*, 753, 141913. doi:[10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.141913](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.141913)

*General*

Steinmuller, H. E., & Chambers, L. G. (2019). Characterization of coastal wetland soil organic matter: Implications for wetland submergence. *Science of The Total Environment*, 677, 648–659.

doi:[10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.04.405](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.04.405)

*Methods*

Steinmuller, H. E., Dittmer, K. M., White, J. R., & Chambers, L. G. (2019). Understanding the fate of soil organic matter in submerging coastal wetland soils: A microcosm approach. *Geoderma*, 337, 1267–1277.

doi:[10.1016/j.geoderma.2018.08.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2018.08.020)

*General*

Steinmuller, H. E., Foster, T. E., Boudreau, P., Hinkle, C. R., & Chambers, L. G. (2020). Characterization of herbaceous encroachment on soil biogeochemical cycling within a coastal marsh. *Science of The Total Environment*, 738, 139532. doi:[10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.139532](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.139532)

*General*

Steinmuller, H. E., Hayes, M. P., Hurst, N. R., Sapkota, Y., Cook, R. L., White, J. R., Xue, Z., & Chambers, L. G. (2020). Does edge erosion alter coastal wetland soil properties? A multi-method biogeochemical study.

*CATENA*, 187, 104373. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2019.104373>

*General*

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## Related Datasets

### IsRelatedTo

Steinmuller, H. E., White, J. R., Cook, R. L., Xue, Z., Chambers, L. G. (2021) **Microbial gene abundance of coastal wetland soil cores collected in June 2018 from Barataria Bay, Louisiana**. Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2021-02-10 doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.840278.1 [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

Steinmuller, H. E., White, J. R., Cook, R. L., Xue, Z., Chambers, L. G. (2021) **Soil physicochemical properties of coastal wetland soil cores collected in June 2018 from Barataria Bay, Louisiana**. Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2021-02-10 doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.840246.1 [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

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## Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
Location	Site location (29°26_36.77__ N, 89°53_59.28__ W)	unitless
Distance	Distance from marsh edge	meters (m)
Replicate	Denotation of whether core was the 1st (A), 2nd (B), or 3rd (C) core pulled from the site as field replicate.	unitless
Depth	Soil depth below the surface.	centimeters (cm)
Extractable_Nitrate	Concentration of extractable nitrate within a soil sample.	milligrams per kilometer (mg kg-1)
Extractable_SRP	Concentration of extractable soluble reactive phosphorous within a soil sample.	milligrams per kilometer (mg kg-1)
Extractable_Ammonium	Concentration of extractable ammonium within a soil sample.	milligrams per kilometer (mg kg-1)
Latitude	Latitude	decimal degrees
Longitude	Longitude (west is negative)	decimal degress
Date_collected	Date of sample collection	unitless

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## Instruments

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Centrifuge
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	A machine with a rapidly rotating container that applies centrifugal force to its contents, typically to separate fluids of different densities (e.g., cream from milk) or liquids from solids.

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	AQ2 Automated Discrete Analyzer
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Discrete Analyzer
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	Discrete analyzers utilize discrete reaction wells to mix and develop the colorimetric reaction, allowing for a wide variety of assays to be performed from one sample. These instruments are ideal for drinking water, wastewater, soil testing, environmental and university or research applications where multiple assays and high throughput are required.

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Push Corer
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	Capable of being performed in numerous environments, push coring is just as it sounds. Push coring is simply pushing the core barrel (often an aluminum or polycarbonate tube) into the sediment by hand. A push core is useful in that it causes very little disturbance to the more delicate upper layers of a sub-aqueous sediment. Description obtained from: <a href="http://web.who.edu/coastal-group/about/how-we-work/field-methods/coring/">http://web.who.edu/coastal-group/about/how-we-work/field-methods/coring/</a>

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	Orbital Shaker
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Shaker
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	A Shaker is a piece of lab equipment used to mix, blend, or to agitate substances in tube(s) or flask(s) by shaking them, which is mainly used in the fields of chemistry and biology. A shaker contains an oscillating board which is used to place the flasks, beakers, test tubes, etc.

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## Project Information

### **Fate of Coastal Wetland Carbon Under Increasing Sea Level Rise: Using the Subsiding Louisiana Coast as a Proxy for Future World-Wide Sea Level Projections (Submerged Wetland Carbon)**

**Coverage:** Coastal Louisiana

#### *Description from NSF award abstract:*

Coastal Louisiana is currently experiencing net sea level rise at rates higher than most of the world's coastlines and within the global range predicted to occur in the next 65 - 85 years, making Louisiana an ideal site to study potential future impacts of rising sea level on coastal systems. This project will use field collection and controlled tank experiments to study the changing organic carbon cycle resulting from erosion of marsh soils along with its impact on associated biogeochemical processes. The hypothesis tested in this study is that the majority of eroded soil organic carbon is converted to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and released to the atmosphere, representing an addition to the anthropogenic input of CO<sub>2</sub>. This process has not been quantified and could be an important missing component in predictive models of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> changes. While this process may be of only regional importance today in comparison to other sources of CO<sub>2</sub>, this study of the Louisiana coast will greatly enhance our full understanding of the potential impacts on the global carbon cycle that may result from coastal erosion as global sea level continues to rise.

The project will train graduate and undergraduate students in interdisciplinary research involving marine and wetland biogeochemistry, microbiology, and ecological modeling. It will also fund development of an interactive, educational display on the loss of coastal wetlands for the Louisiana Sea Grant's annual Ocean Commotion educational event attended by area middle and high school students, teachers, and parents. Results from this study may also inform community planners both regionally and worldwide as they prepare for sea level rise in coastal communities.

Eustatic sea level rise and regional subsidence have created a much greater rate of coastline loss in Louisiana than is being experienced in most of the world's coastal regions, reaching global rates that are predicted to occur worldwide in 65 - 85 years. This provides a unique potential to extrapolate data from Louisiana's changing coastal carbon cycle to both regional and global models of the future impact of sea level rise and

coastal erosion. By quantifying and modeling the importance of CO2 emissions resulting directly from mineralized soil organic matter from eroding coastlines, a missing element can be added to climate change models. The PIs here plan to investigate the fate of the coastal wetland carbon pool as it erodes using field sampling, laboratory analysis, mesocosm manipulations, and the creation of a coupled physical-biogeochemical model for the basin being studied. Beyond quantifying increased CO2 emission, the PIs will also address the potential for increased eutrophication due to input of nutrients from eroded soils, as well as the potential for future contribution to existing hypoxic zones in the northern Gulf of Mexico that result from excessive nutrient input from the Mississippi River watershed.

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## Funding

Funding Source	Award
<a href="#">NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)</a>	<a href="#">OCE-1635837</a>

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