

ERDC Researchers Publish Book Chapter on Wetland Restoration

Nourishing coastal wetlands with beneficially used dredged material requires careful thought, investigation, and consideration to ensure project success. Drs. Brian Harris and Justin Shawler recently published a book chapter on improving coastal wetland restorations, which they presented to the University of Pennsylvania's Landscape Architecture Department.

Drs. Brian Harris and Justin Shawler (CHL) published a book chapter entitled “Elevating Coastal Wetland Restoration,” appearing in the book “Media Matters in Landscape Architecture.” The book focuses on the dual meanings of “Environmental Media” (i.e. materials of the natural world and broad relationship between environmental issues) and how these distinct understandings coalesce within the discipline of landscape architecture and other spatial design fields. Authors from a wide range of disciplines including landscape architecture, media studies, history of science, civil engineering, geology, ecology, planning, and architecture contributed the book. This framing of environmental media emphasized the relationships among various design media and the specific material and social environments within which they operate. Drs. Harris and Shawler’s chapter focused on the role of geomorphology in the site selection, design, construction, and establishment of wetlands nourished with dredged material.

Following the official book publishing, Dr. Harris provided an accompanying webinar to the University of Pennsylvania’s Landscape Architecture Department. The talk covered the importance of coastal wetland geomorphology in the context of wetland degradation, wetland restoration solutions and associated uncertainties in the design and implementation phases, and the role that media such as geotechnical models, geomorphic maps, and public-facing conceptual diagrams can play in project implementation. The talk included past, current, and on-going research performed by ERDC and other federal and state entities.

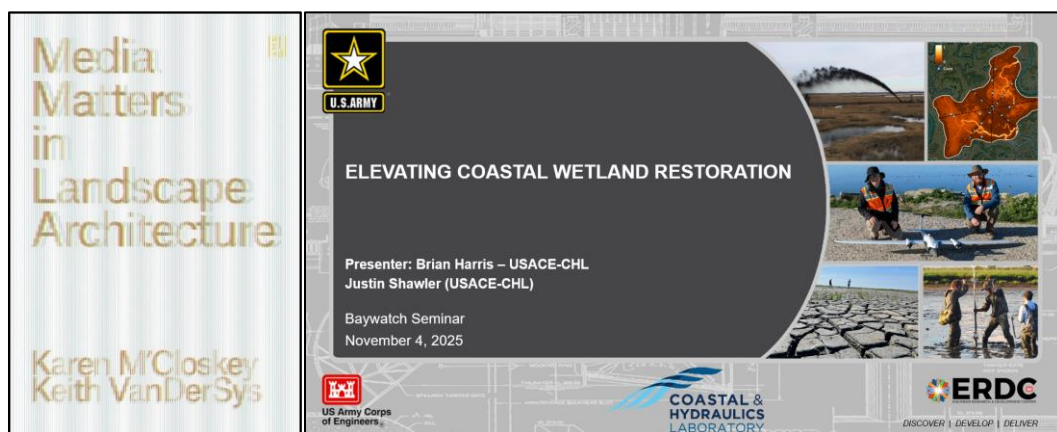


Figure 6. (Left) Book cover for “Media Matters in Landscape Architecture.” (Right) Webinar presentation title slide.

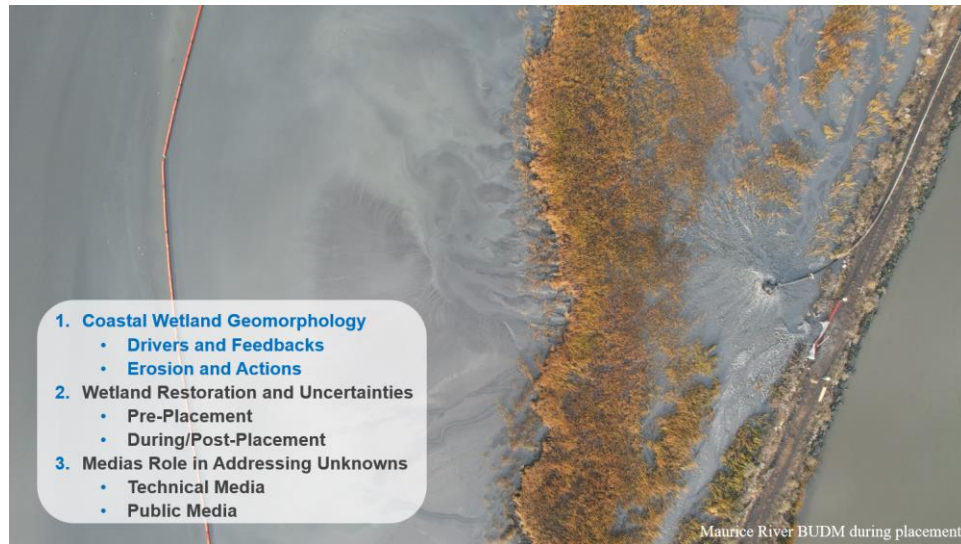


Figure 7. Overview of the webinar presentation to the University of Pennsylvania entitled “Elevating Coastal Wetland Restoration.”

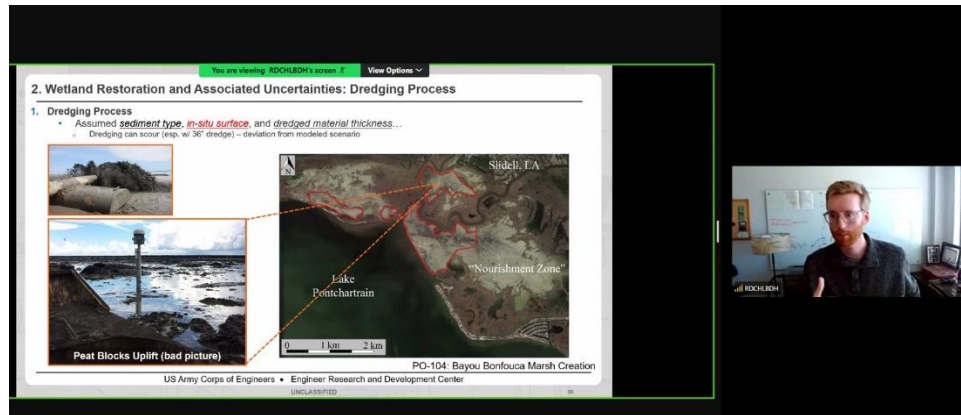


Figure 8. Screen-shot of Dr. Harris during the webinar. Photo credit: Dr. Justin Shawler.

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The full citation of the book chapter is: Harris, B. D., and J. Shawler. 2025. “Elevating Coastal Wetland Restoration.” Media Matters in Landscape Architecture, edited by K. M’Closkey and K. VanDerSys, 68–81. Novato, California: Applied Research and Design Publishing, an imprint of ORO Editions.

Link to Media Matters in Landscape Architecture: [here](#)

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