

Steve Box, Director and Executive Director
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In 2006, Mr. Box founded Environmental Stewardship and developed it into a leading advocate for water conservation, preservation, and ecology. He holds a Master of Science in Environmental Science & Ecology and a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Fisheries Science from Oklahoma State University. His primary interests are ecology, water availability and quality, and environmental outreach & education. He has twenty-five years of aquatic toxicology, environmental advocacy and regulatory experience, and sixteen years of business management and marketing experience in the food ingredient industry. His other passion is sailing.

Mr. Box used his environmental science education and global business experience to encourage the development of mutually acceptable solutions that balance human, socioeconomic, and environmental needs through the involvement of public, private, and governmental participation.

Over the past ten years he has focused on protecting the surface and ground waters of the Colorado River basin, Matagorda Bay, and the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer Group by encouraging a better scientific understanding of the interaction and relationship between groundwater and surface waters in order to inform public policy decisions. He has developed a thorough scientific, legal, and public policy understanding of water issues and management practices in Central Texas through participation in processes and debates related to:

- 1) Lower Colorado River Water Management Plan (LCRA WMP);
- 2) Colorado and Lavaca Rivers and Matagorda and Lavaca Bays Area Stakeholder Committee (CL BBASC) and Bay and Basin Expert Science Team (CL BBEST) establishment of environmental flow standards;
- 3) Groundwater Management Area 12 (GMA-12) development and adoption of desired future conditions;
- 4) Local Groundwater Conservation District permitting (Lost Pines and Post Oak Savannah GCDs);
- 5) Regional Water Planning involving Regions G, K, and L;
- 6) Texas Legislature discussion and debate regarding water issues facing the state; and
- 7) On-the-ground development of paddling trails; hike and bike trails; river access points; spring, creek, wetland and watershed protection and restoration projects; regional and community planning; and river festivals.

Along with these public policy activities, he was a leader in developing the Lost Pines Nature Trails along the Colorado River in Bastrop. He supervised a water diversion and wetlands project there to improve water quality of storm runoff going into the river and provide habitat for waterfowl. He solicited grants from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Lower Colorado River Authority, and others to enable this work.

He is an avid sailor. His sailboat, Ariel, is a Nor'Sea 27 slipped in Rockport, Texas. He is looking forward to exploring the Texas Gulf Coast including Matagorda, Lavaca, Aransas and Baffin bays.