Biography: Mariana Rivas Varela

Water Quality Division Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Current Position

Mariana Rivas began her full-time employment with TCEQ as an Environmental Permit Specialist in the Stormwater Permits Team in December 2024. Her work includes writing individual stormwater discharge permits and conducting reviews of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Reports and NOIs. In addition, Mariana provides technical assistance to regulated entities and the public concerning the Construction General Permit (TXR150000), the Multi-Sector General Permit (TXR050000), and the Phase II Small MS4 General Permit (TXR040000) under the TPDES program.

Prior Experience and Education

Mariana grew up in Mexico and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in August 2024 with a double major in Environmental Science (Biology Track) and Plan II Honors. She was an intern for the UT Resource Recovery department and worked as a research assistant for the Jackson School of Geosciences and the Institute of Geophysics. Mariana studied abroad in Singapore at the Nanyang Technological University and completed a summer program in Seville, Spain.

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