**Tech Paper Glossary**

Coastal Texas Water Resources II

Fall 2015

Earth observations: NASA’s long term global observing satellites

Hypersaline estuary: a partially enclosed coastal body of water that is either permanently or periodically open to the sea and receives minimal discharge from a freshwater source, giving the water a higher salinity content than the sea

Normalized Difference Infrared Index(NDII): a reflectance measurement that is sensitive to changes in water content in plant canopies

Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI): an index of a plant’s photosynthetic activity used to estimate the health of vegetation

Taproot:  straight tapering root growing vertically downward toward groundwater resources, and forming the center from which subsidiary rootlets spring

Thermal anomalies: an isolated change in water surface temperature that would indicate an influx of groundwater to the lagoon