
VI. DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Data and Information Management System (DIMS) will become a centralized source of information for Galveston Bay. It may include an information center for bay-related publications, as well as one or more computer data base systems for critical numerical data now present in various agency data bases and files. The DIMS will serve as a focus for collection and analysis of new data during the scientific/technical investigations and during development of the CCMP. It will provide for general access to technical and non-technical information both during the Management Conference and subsequently during management implementation. Although a DIMS is not specifically required in OMEP guidance, it remains a critical need for adequate characterization of Galveston Bay.

The following program components describe work to be completed for the DIMS:

- o Identify necessary requirements for a DIMS, based on the Program Inventory, expected new characterization data, expected long-term monitoring needs, the Priority Problems List, and user community comments.
- o Compile a draft Feasibility Report for DIMS alternatives, including evaluation of currently existing systems as they relate to DIMS requirements and constraints imposed by historical data. Draft report reviewed by Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee, Management Committee, and Region VI.
- o Choose and specify a DIMS, for recommendation by the Management Committee and approval by the Policy Committee.
- o Screen the data described in the Program Inventory for relevance to Priority Problems and for adequate QA/QC. Incorporate acceptable data and information into the DIMS for general availability during characterization work.