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**Regulatory Survey for the  
Armand Bayou Coastal Preserve**

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**Galveston Bay National Estuary Program  
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## PREFACE

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The National Estuary Program (NEP) was established by the Water Quality Act (WQA) of 1987. The Act authorizes the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to convene Management Conferences to develop Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMP's) for estuaries of national significance that are threatened by pollution, development or overuse.

Galveston Bay was named for priority consideration for inclusion in the NEP in the WQA. The Governor of Texas submitted a Supplemental Nomination for Galveston Bay in May, 1987. EPA accepted the nomination and initiated the Management Conference for Galveston Bay in July, 1988. A cooperative agreement between Texas and the U.S. EPA was signed in October 1988, enabling developmental work to begin on the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program (GBNEP). (Appendix D contains additional details on the administrative structure and organization of the GBNEP, as well as addresses and phone numbers for principal contacts within the program. A comprehensive membership directory may also be obtained from the GBNEP Program Office.)

The GBNEP received approval for an Action Plan Demonstration Project from EPA Office of Marine and Estuarine Protection in July, 1989, and funding from EPA Region 6 in September, 1989. Such projects are designed to show near-term positive actions by National Estuary Programs. Under the GBNEP project, two new coastal preserves, Armand Bayou and Christmas Bay, were created under the existing joint Texas General Land Office (GLO)/Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Coastal Preserves Program. Armand Bayou, the focus of this regulatory survey, was recommended for Coastal Preserve designation due to its significance as one of the few bayou systems on the Texas Coast which has been relatively unaltered by human activities, although it is surrounded by developing urban areas.

This report contains comprehensive surveys of the regulatory authorities and programs governing the Armand Bayou Coastal Preserve. (Appendix E provides a list of the various agencies covered by this survey, with their addresses and phone numbers.) This information will be used to develop a management plan for the Preserve, and will also contribute to the baseline regulatory data for developing the Galveston Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

This study was conducted by the Houston-Galveston Area Council, under contract to the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program.

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