
Preface

This document is written to meet Environmental Protection Agency requirements for an Annual Work Plan for award of National Estuary Program grants (40 CFR Part 35, Federal Register Vol. 54, No. 190, Oct. 3, 1989). The information presented here serves as an agreement between the State of Texas and the U.S. EPA for work to be carried out by the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program (GBNEP) in state fiscal year 1993 (September 1, 1992 through August 31, 1993). Work described in this plan is for year four of a five-year effort to create and implement a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for Galveston Bay.

This Work Plan is also written for members of the Management Conference, as well as for the wider Galveston Bay Community with an interest in the estuary and in our efforts to improve its management. Enough information has been included to give the reader at least a fair understanding of our goals, what has already been accomplished, and what remains to be accomplished.

First, the Introduction includes a summary of the estuarine problems that lend urgency to our work, some general goals framed to solve these problems, and the results we expect to accomplish through our effort. Second is a Review of Fiscal Year 1992, organized according to categories required by federal guidance, to demonstrate our progress so far. Third is a more detailed summary of the projects conceived by the GBNEP since our beginning in 1989. Fourth is a plan for additional projects in the coming year, described in sufficient detail to facilitate funding of the GBNEP for another year. Fifth, and finally, is a review of the anticipated sources of funding for the coming year, including estimates of the substantial resources volunteered to the program by individuals and organizations.

Through these initiatives, the members of the GBNEP Management Conference propose to eventually begin coordinated management of Galveston Bay at the ecosystem level. It is our hope that anyone with a desire to improve the stewardship of this important Texas and American resource join us in the endeavor.

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Program Director