
II. PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 1990 PROJECTS

The following projects are proposed for FY 1990. Dollar-values are based on \$700,000 federal contribution of NEP Section 320 funds to the program for the year, combined with \$233,333 (25%) state match. The Action Plan Demonstration Project listed is based on separate federal funding of \$175,000 combined with \$58,333 (25%) state match. The Water Quality Act Purposes and EPA OMEP Guidance items referred to are listed in the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program EPA/State Management Agreement (Publication GBNEP-1, September 1989) and are summarized in Table 1. The recipient of each project is the Texas Water Commission (TWC); however, work will be contracted to other institutions according to Management Conference recommendations (see "Fund Sources", below). Projects are summarized in Table 2. Table 3 presents alternative preferred funding levels at a total federal Section 320 funding level of \$1,000,000, combined with \$333,333 (25%) in state match.

Program Inventory (FY 1990, \$93,333, TWC)

This project is a survey of all historical, ongoing, and proposed programs related to Galveston Bay. It will include all state and federal agencies, local governments, universities, and other institutions. Separate detailed descriptions for each program will be compiled. Information will include: sponsoring agency, program goals and description, period of record, publication references, data (parameters) involved, locations involved, data format and storage specifications, summary of findings, and any other descriptives. The inventory will be published as a comprehensive and succinct guide to the diverse Galveston Bay programs involving both science and management. The inventory will be the basis for integrating existing governmental programs (in the Base Programs Action Plan), for implementing a Data Information and Management Systems (DIMS) to compile data from various sources, and eventually, to plan an effective long term monitoring program. This project relates directly to and significantly surpasses EPA OMEP guidance item #2. This project will be a necessary step to effectively focus later characterization studies required under WQA purposes 1, 2, and 3, and is necessary to accomplish purposes 5 and 7 concerning integration and effectiveness of federal and state management activities.

Base Programs Action Plan (FY 1990 and continuing; 1990 \$46,666, TWC)

The Base Programs Action Plan will be a review and evaluation of regional, state, and local programs (described in the Program Inventory) for effectiveness in addressing the identified Priority Problems of Galveston Bay. The plan will detail a redirection and integration of these programs, where necessary, to more effectively "target" the Priority Problems. This process will be accomplished whenever possible during the five years of CCMP development, and as such will provide a "head start" on CCMP implementation, for the most pressing problems in the estuary. This project relates directly to EPA OMEP guidance item #3, and establishes short

term actions that will complement long term CCMP actions under WQA Purpose 4. The project will also help determine an effective long term monitoring strategy under WQA purpose #6.

DIMS Feasibility and Implementation (FY 1990, \$233,333, TWC)

The Data Information and Management System (DIMS) will be the basis for work conducted during the characterization phase of the GBNEP. Because of the diverse nature of existing bay information, the DIMS may involve more than just one approach to bringing the information together. It could include a central dedicated repository for critical historical data and for technical data yet to be collected, as well as one or more computer data storage, retrieval, and analysis systems. It will make available to program participants and the public the numerous publications and data sets now scattered in various institutions. This project is a necessary step for WQA purposes 1, 2, and 3 to be effectively addressed, since existing data on Galveston Bay have historically been underutilized, scattered and difficult to obtain.

Public Participation (FY 1990 and continuing; FY 1990 \$233,333, TWC)

Public involvement in the GBNEP will be a high priority throughout the program. It is a key element in consensus-building that will be necessary for any effective CCMP actions to be implemented. Involvement will include participation in formulating the Priority Problems List and in designating specific projects. Proposed components of this effort include: publication of a quarterly newsletter, publication of occasional "issue papers" dedicated to critical bay issues, public meetings, development of slide and video presentations, and sponsoring of special events. These activities will be facilitated by a full-time Public Participation Director from the Program Office working in cooperation with the Citizen's Advisory Steering Committee and Citizen's Advisory Committee. This project is required under EPA OMEP guidance item #1 and is necessary for success of WQA purpose 4, the CCMP.

Program Administration (FY 1990 and continuing; 1990 \$139,999, TWC)

A State Program Office will be critical to successful coordination of the GBNEP. A full time Program Manager with administrative support will work to facilitate meetings of conference committees, to ensure effective communication among participants, and to ensure the program meets administrative requirements to annually receive funding. This project reflects support of all EPA OMEP guidance items and WQA purposes.

Technical Studies (FY 1990 and continuing; 1990 \$186,666, TWC)

Scientific and technical studies will be required to effectively address priority problems in the estuary. These studies will be greatly expanded in several subsequent years to culminate in a Characterization Report required to formulate management actions for the CCMP. Technical studies in FY 1990 will have two components. First, some studies will involve historical data analyses based on will be initiated to fill critical gaps in knowledge. These field studies will

concern four critical aspects of Galveston Bay recognized by the Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee:

1. Contamination of Seafoods
2. Reduction/Alteration of Living Resources
3. Shoreline Erosion
4. Restriction of Contact Recreation

The nature of these specific studies will be recommended by the Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee based on the Priority Problems List and committee deliberations now being planned. This project directly addresses EPA OMEP guidance items 5 and 6 and WQA purposes 1, 2, and 3.

Action Plan Demonstration Project (FY 1990 and continuing; \$233,333, TWC)

Action Plan Demonstration Projects are designed to demonstrate positive early program actions related to the protection and enhancement of estuaries. The GBNEP will focus on two unique and important natural areas in Galveston Bay, Christmas Bay and Armand Bayou. A coordinated effort involving the Texas General Land Office, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Water Commission, and EPA Region VI will be made to designate these two significant areas as Coastal Preserves. The coordination will involve technical and regulatory studies of water quality (point and nonpoint sources), habitat quantity and quality, and primary and secondary production affecting the entire bay. Geographical studies and photographic documentation will also be key elements of the work. The Project will strongly support the larger goals of the National Estuary Program, and will represent a much-needed immediate, visible, and effective action by the GBNEP to improve the estuary.

TABLE 1
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WATER QUALITY ACT PURPOSES,
EPA GUIDANCE PROVIDED, AND NEGOTIATED GBNEP PRODUCTS

| WQA of 1987 Purpose | EPA/OMEP Guidance Item | GBNEP Product | Date |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 1. Priority Problems List | Priority Problems List | April 1990 |
| | 2. Federal Program Inventory | Program Inventory | June 1990 |
| | 3. Base Programs Analysis/ "Action Now Agenda" | Base Programs Action Plan | July 1991 |
| 1. Trend Study | 5. Status/Trends Study | Final Characterization Report | Jan. 1993 |
| 2. Cause/Effect Study | 6. Cause-Effects/Loading Study | Final Characterization Report | Jan. 1993 |
| 3. Loading Study | | Final Characterization Report | Jan. 1993 |
| 4. CCMP | 7,8. Management Implementation | Draft, Final CCMP | March, Sept. 1994 |
| 5. Federal/State Coordination | | Draft, Final CCMP | March, Sept. 1994 |
| | 4,7,8. Financial Strategy | Draft, Final CCMP | March, Sept. 1994 |
| 6. Monitoring | 7,8. Monitoring | Draft, Final CCMP | March, Sept. 1994 |
| 7. Federal Consistency | 7,8. Federal Consistency | Draft, Final CCMP | March, Sept. 1994 |

TABLE 2

GALVESTON BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM
FY 1990 PROJECT SUMMARY

Based on \$700,000 in Federal Section 320 Funding

| Project Name | WQA Purpose | Products Delivered/ Projected | Date of Delivery | | Cost | Source of Funds | Responsible Organization* |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | Actual | Projected | | | |
| Program Inventory | 5, 7 | Program Inventory | | 6/1990 | 93,333 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Base Programs Action Plan | 5, 6 | Base Programs Action Plan | | 7/1991 | 46,666 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| DIMS Feasibility and Implementation | 1, 2, 3 | DIMS Feasibility Report | | 3/1990 | 233,333 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Public Participation | 4 | | | | 233,333 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Program Administration | 1-7 | | | | 139,999 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Technical Studies | 1, 2, 3 | Characterization Report | | 12/1992 | 186,666 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Action Plan Demonstra- | 3 | Coastal Preserve Study | | | 233,333 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |

* Texas Water Commission will award some funds to other institutions based on Management Conference decisions throughout the program.

TABLE 3

GALVESTON BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM
FY 1990 PROJECT SUMMARY

Based on \$1,000,000 in Federal Section 320 Funding

| Project Name | WQA Purpose | Products Delivered/ Projected | Date of Delivery | | Cost | Source of Funds | Responsible Organization* |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | Actual | Projected | | | |
| Program Inventory | 5, 7 | Program Inventory | | 6/1990 | 133,000 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Base Programs Action Plan | 5, 6 | Base Programs Action Plan | | 7/1991 | 67,000 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| DIMS Feasibility and Implementation | 1, 2, 3 | DIMS Feasibility Report | | 3/1990 | 333,000 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Public Participation | 4 | | | | 333,000 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Program Administration | 1-7 | | | | 200,000 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Technical Studies | 1, 2, 3 | Characterization Report | | 12/1992 | 267,000 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |
| Action Plan Demonstra- | 3 | Coastal Preserve Study | | | 233,333 | EPA, Texas State Funds | TWC |

* Texas Water Commission will award some funds to other institutions based on Management Conference decisions throughout the program.