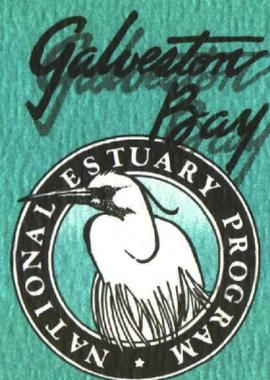


Framework for Action: Galveston Bay Management Evaluation



Galveston Bay
National Estuary Program

GBNEP-27
January 1993

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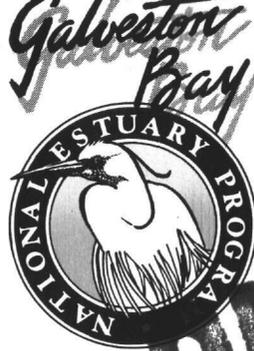
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The Galveston Bay National Estuary Program

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The Galveston Bay National Estuary Program

Texans increasingly express their expectations for a clean environment in terms of entire ecosystems. Until recently, our tendency was to view environmental problems in isolated pieces we could understand—indeed this view was institutionalized (and seemingly immortalized) in an elaborate mosaic of fragmented jurisdictions. The Galveston Bay National Estuary Program (GBNEP) is a forerunner in elevating hands-on management of coastal environments to the level of the ecosystem; and in doing so, is encouraging an integration of traditionally disparate institutions.

The GBNEP was established under the authority of the Water Quality Act of 1987 to develop a *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP) for Galveston Bay. The purpose of the CCMP is to address threats to the Bay resulting from pollution, development, and overuse. To address these threats, five years of work commenced in 1990, consisting of three phases: (1) Identification of the specific problems facing the Bay; (2) A Bay-wide effort to compile data and information to describe status, trends, and probable causes related to the identified problems; and (3) Creation of the CCMP itself to enhance governance of the Bay at the ecosystem level. The GBNEP is accomplishing this work through a cooperative agreement between the U.S. EPA (Region 6) and the State of Texas (administered by the Texas Water Commission).

The structure of the GBNEP reflects a strong commitment to consensus-building among all Galveston Bay user groups, government agencies, and the public. The GBNEP "Management Conference" consists of six Governor-appointed committees with broad representation, totaling about one hundred individuals. Meetings of these committees are also open to the public, and public participation in policy-setting and in Bay management are considered strengths of the program. When submitted to the Governor of Texas in late 1994, the CCMP will reflect thousands of hours of involvement (much in the form of volunteer time) by individuals who in various ways use, enjoy, or help govern this vital coastal resource.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GLOSSARY	xiv
PART I: INTRODUCTION	
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
Action Plan Topics	1
Management Topics	6
1. INTRODUCTION	9
Purpose	9
Evaluation Criteria	10
Report Organization	13
Report Limitations	14
Acknowledgments	14
2. OVERVIEW OF GALVESTON BAY	17
PART II: ACTION PLAN TOPICS	
3. POINT SOURCE POLLUTION	21
Regulatory Framework	25
Municipal Wastewater Treatment	42
Oil and Gas Activities: Texas Railroad Commission	52
Summary Evaluation	56
4. NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION	59
Regulatory Framework	63
Agriculture	65
Stormwater Runoff	69
Septic Tanks	75
Evaluating Nonpoint Source Management	79
Summary Evaluation	80
5. SPILLS/DUMPING	83
Spills	83
Regulatory Framework	84
Spill Risk Factors in Galveston Bay	93
Evaluation	100
Dumping and Marine Debris	102
Regulatory Framework	104
Public Participation	107
Summary Evaluations	108

6. DREDGING/FILLING	113
Regulatory Framework	114
Agencies and Implementation	119
Review of Federal Dredge and Fill Projects	131
Evaluation	133
Summary Evaluation	140
7. FRESHWATER INFLOW	143
Water Ownership and Rights	143
Galveston Bay Inflow Trends	144
Water Rights Permitting	148
Enforcement	153
Evaluation	154
Summary Evaluation	158
8. SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT	161
Local Land Management and Economic Development	162
Federal and State Coastal Management	171
Evaluation	175
Summary Evaluation	176
9. HABITAT PROTECTION	179
Federal Regulatory Framework	180
State Programs for Habitat Protection	193
Evaluation	199
Summary Evaluation	201
10. SPECIES PROTECTION	203
Fish and Shellfish	203
Birds	208
Endangered Species	209
Evaluation	211
Summary Evaluation	213
11. HUMAN HEALTH	215
Shellfish	215
Fish	231
Contact Recreation	233
Evaluation	235
Summary Evaluation	236
12. SUBSIDENCE/EROSION	239
Subsidence	
Regulatory Framework	240
Implementation	240
Evaluation	245
Bay and Coastal Erosion	246
Summary Evaluation	250

PART III: ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

13. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FOR GALVESTON BAY	253
Environmental Planning	253
Environmental Permitting	256
Environmental Monitoring	261
Environmental Enforcement	264
General Problems of the Regulatory Process	266
Pollution Prevention	267
Nonregulatory Environmental Management	270
Programs Conflicting with Bay Goals	275
Research	276
Conclusion	280
14. IMPLEMENTING THE CCMP	283
Resources	283
Obstacles	288
Institutions for Managing Galveston Bay	291
Information Management and Coordination	295
Conclusion	297
15. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	301
Characteristics of the Framework for Managing the Environment of Galveston Bay	301
Assumptions Underlying Our Recommendations	304
Recommendations	305
Conclusion	312
LIST OF INTERVIEWS	313
INDEX	321

GLOSSARY

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACP	Area Contingency Plan (spill response)
ACP	Agricultural Conservation Program
ASCS	U.S. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
BAT	Best Available Technology
BCT	Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology
BMP	Best Management Practice
BOD	Biological Oxygen Demand (a water pollution criterion)
CCC	Coastal Coordination Council
CCMP	Coastal Coordination and Management Plan
CG	U.S. Coast Guard
CHPUD	City of Houston Public Utilities Department
CMC	Center for Marine Conservation
Corps	US Army Corps of Engineers
CPF	Coastal Protection Fund
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZM	Coastal Zone Management Plan
DHS	U.S. Department of Human Services
DMR	Discharge Monitoring Report
DOT	Department of Transportation
DSSC	Division of Shellfish and Sanitation Control
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ETJ	Extraterritorial Jurisdictions
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FCWA	Federal Clean Water Act
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
GAO	General Accounting Office
GBNEP	Galveston Bay National Estuary Program
GCA	Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority
GIS	Geographic Information System
GLO	General Land Office
GMFMC	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
HGCSD	Houston Galveston Coastal Subsidence District
HSC	Houston Ship Channel
ICT	Interagency Coordination Team
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ISSC	Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LOP	Letter of Permission
MARPOL	Marine Pollution Treaty (Annex V)
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MEH	Mandatory Enforcement Hearing
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement

MRSC	Marine Spill Response Corporation
MUD	Municipal Utility District
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	Non-point Source
NSSP	National Shellfish Sanitation Program
ONRW	Outstanding National Resource Waters
OPA	Oil Pollution Act of 1990
OSC	On-Site Coordinator (spill response)
OSCCP	On-Site Coordinator Contingency Plan (spill response)
OSPRA	Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act
OSSF	On-Site Sewage Facilities
PISCES	Professional Involvement of Seafood Concerned Enterprises
PSF	Permanent School Fund
RCP	Regional Contingency Plan (spill response)
RGL	Regulatory Guidance Letter
RRC	Texas Railroad Commission
RRT	Regional Response Team (spill response)
SBA	Small Business Administration
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SRF	State Revolving Fund
TWC	Texas Water Commission
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SPCB	Structural Pest Control Board
TACB	Texas Air Control Board
TDA	Texas Department of Agriculture
TDH	Texas Department of Health
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TRA	Trinity River Authority
TRE	Toxic Reduction Evaluation
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
TWDB	Texas Water Development Board
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
VTS	Coast Guard's Vessel Traffic Service
WQA	Water Quality Act
WQS	Water Quality Standards

