

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Project Description**

The purpose of this report is to evaluate and quantify the non-fishing human induced mortality on fisheries resources in Galveston Bay. The approach used by Jones and Neuse, Inc. (JN) consisted of a comprehensive review of literature and existing data on fish mortality caused by human activity other than fishing. This was accomplished by accessing information contained at the Galveston Bay Information Center, Texas A&M University - Galveston, other data bases, on-going projects, as well as compiling published and non-published data from federal, state, and local entities. Data base searches focused on information specifically from Galveston Bay. These data bases were evaluated for information on a variety of causes of fish mortality including impingement and entrainment, dredge and fill operations, seismic exploration, pipeline construction and removal, and other oil and gas exploration/production activities. In addition, reports of fish kill investigations conducted by federal, state, and local agencies were reviewed. Data were quantified by causes, species, size ranges, magnitude, and spatial and temporal characteristics.

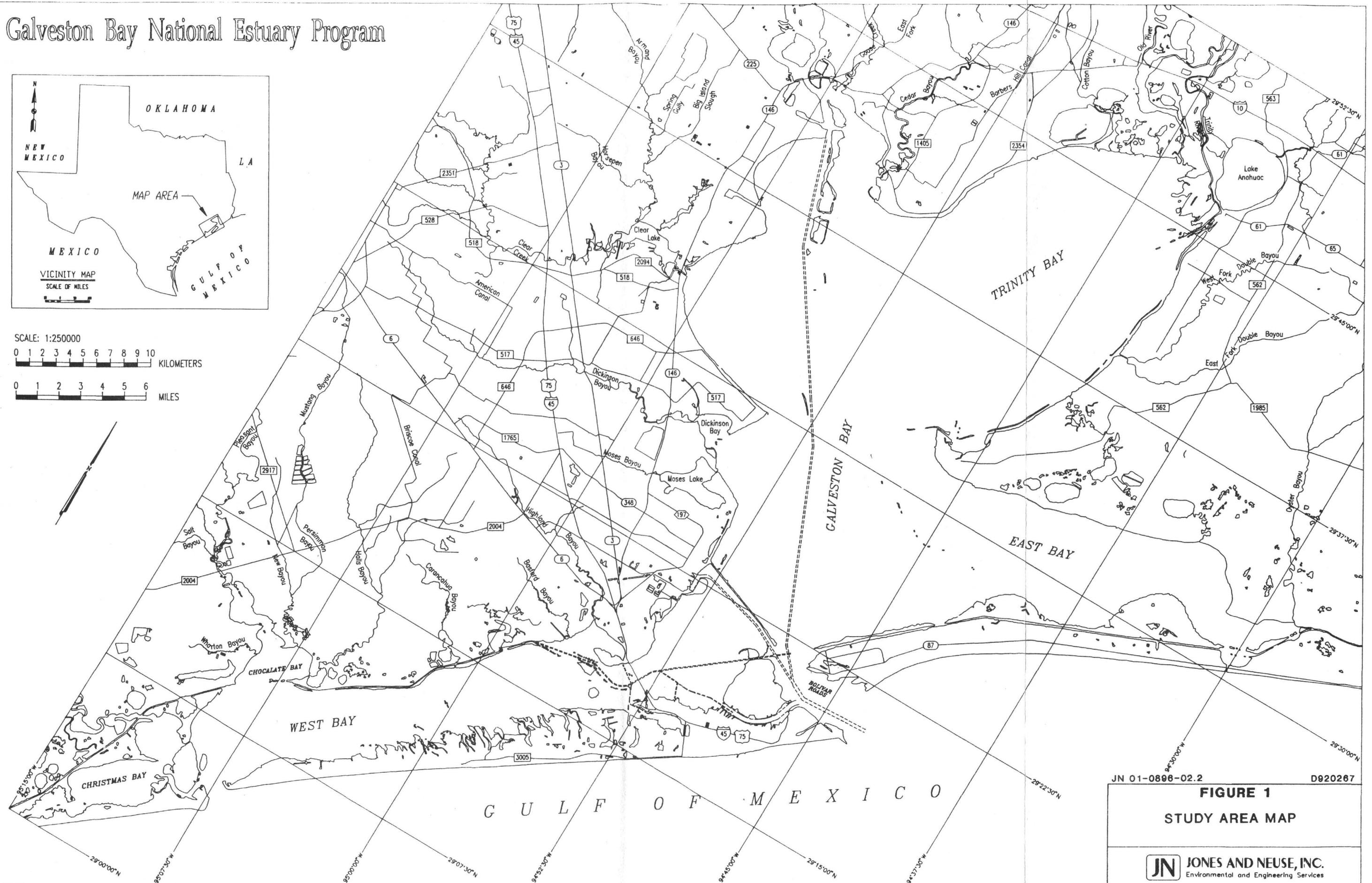
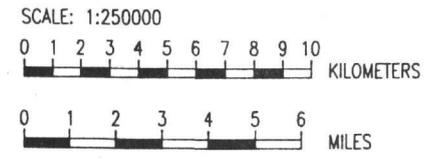
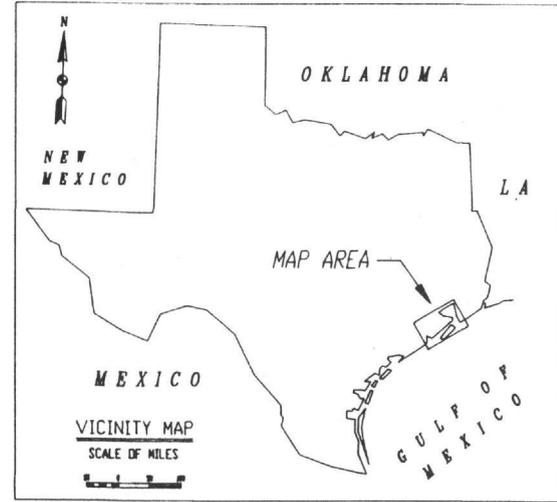
### **2.2 Description of Study Area**

The Galveston Bay system study area is composed of Galveston Bay, Trinity Bay, East Bay, West Bay, and a number of interconnected smaller embayments. The smaller waterbodies include Clear Lake, Dickinson Bay, Chocolate Bay, Bastrop Bay, Christmas Bay, Dollar Bay, Jones Bay, Tabbs Bay, San Jacinto Bay, Moses Lake, and Drum Bay. Galveston and Follets Islands, and the Bolivar Peninsula form a barrier between the bay system and the Gulf of Mexico.

Five major basins contribute inflow to the Galveston Bay complex forming tidally influenced river systems. These are the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin, Trinity River Basin, Trinity-San Jacinto Coastal Basin, San Jacinto River Basin, and the San-Jacinto-Brazos Coastal Basin. The Trinity River is the major inland contributor of inflow to Trinity Bay while the San Jacinto River represents the major inflow to Upper Galveston Bay. Smaller tributaries discharging into the Galveston Bay system include Bastrop Bayou, Chocolate Bayou, Halls Bayou, Dickinson Bayou, Clear Creek, Buffalo Bayou, Cedar Bayou, and Double Bayou. The study area is shown in Figure 1.



# Galveston Bay National Estuary Program



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**FIGURE 1**  
**STUDY AREA MAP**

