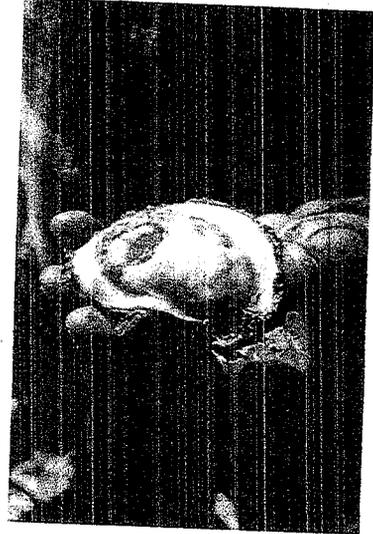




Proposed Freshwater Inflows Rule is a Threat to Galveston Bay Oysters

Freshwater flowing down the Trinity and San Jacinto rivers is the lifeblood of an estuary like Galveston Bay, providing for the proper salinity in the bay and bringing in vital nutrients and sediments.

Right now, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is considering adopting standards for freshwater inflows to Galveston Bay that are inadequate to protect its health, commercial and recreational and commercial fisheries - particularly oysters, or quality of life values for future generations.



We need everyone who enjoys eating Galveston Bay oysters, or simply realizes their importance to the local economy and to the bay's environmental health - from oystermen, to restaurant owners, to owners of related businesses, to fishermen and environmentalists - to come together and make their voices heard by the TCEQ commissioners and the governor.

PLEASE DO IT NOW, as TCEQ staff are finalizing the freshwater inflows rule for commissioner approval. **Who to call:**

TCEQ Commissioner Carlos Rubinstein - (512) 239-5505

TCEQ Commissioner Buddy Garcia - (512) 239-5515

TCEQ Commissioner Bryan Shaw - (512) 239-5510

Governor Rick Perry - (800) 252-9600

Please also write them a quick letter. You can find sample letters by visiting Galveston Bay Foundation's freshwater inflows webpage at http://galvbay.org/advocacy_inflows.html. There you will also find background information on the issue and talking points. Taking a few minutes to speak up can go a long way to protecting our oysters!

Please note that Galveston Bay, as well as Sabine Lake, are the first of all Texas bays for which freshwater inflows rules will be developed. You can also help protect seafood production on the whole Texas coast by keeping up with rule development for other bay systems by visiting <http://www.texaswatermatters.org/flows.htm>. Click on the map for your bay(s) of interest.

For more information about Galveston Bay, please contact Scott Jones of the Galveston Bay Foundation at (281) 332-3381 x209 or sjones@galvbay.org.

Please help make sure Galveston Bay oysters are available for future generations to enjoy just like we do right now!