BAYS AND ESTUARIES (24)

The Texas Coast includes nine major bay systems. The coastal plain is characterized by a gently sloping, lowland environment. Historical periods of coastal flooding and intense sediment deposition have sculpted the Gulf of Mexico shoreline. Today, much of the coastal region is comprised of large bays, lagoons, estuaries, wetlands, sandy beaches, and barrier islands. Most coastal waters in Texas are named as bays, but have freshwater inflows that make them estuaries. The estuaries are typically bordered by tidal marshes and mud-sand flats. Most of the Texas estuaries are shallow, have turbid water due to suspended sediment, and are semi-enclosed by barrier islands.

Segments that contain multiple bays are shown with separate labels for each bay.

2411 Sabine Pass * - from the end of the jetties at the Gulf of Mexico to SH 82
2412 Sabine Lake *
2421 Deep Gulveston Bay *
2422 Trinity Bay *
2423 East Bay *
2424 West Bay *
2425 Clear Lake *
2426 Trinity Bay *
2427 San Jacinto Bay *
2428 Black Dog Bay *
2429 Scott Bay *
2430 Farmers Bay *
2431 Mosier Lake *
2432 Chocolate Bay *
2433 Bannister Bay/Dower Lake *
2434 Chandler Bay *
2435 Deer Bay *
2436 Barbours Cut *
2437 Texas City Ship Channel *
2438 Bayou Channel *
2439 Lower Galveston Bay *
2441 East Matagorda Bay *
2442 Cedar Lake *
2443 Matagorda Bay/Port O'Connor Lake *
2445 Texas Palacios Bay/Turtle Bay *
2447 Lavaca Bay/Chocolate Bay *
2448 Corpus Christi Bay *
2449 Kleberg Bay *
2450 Carancahua Bay *
2451 Corpus Christi Lower Harbor * - from US 181 to Viola Turning Basin
2452 Oso Bay *
2453 Laguna Madre *
2454 Port Aransas Bay/Cove of the Gulf/Laguna Salada *
2455 South Bay *
2456 Brownsville Ship Channel *

GULF OF MEXICO (25)

The Gulf of Mexico covers about 600,000 square miles; Texas has jurisdiction over less than 1 percent of the total surface area. The open water portion of the Gulf in Texas covers approximately 3,079 square miles and includes 634 shoreline miles. The Gulf of Mexico provides various marine resources including navigation, recreation, oil and gas, commercial fisheries, and oysters. Gulf coast ports are served by the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, which extends 1,200 miles from Brownsville to Carrabelle, Florida.

2501 Gulf Waters - The state's area of jurisdiction in the Gulf of Mexico extends from the mean high water mark out to 10.36 miles into the Gulf, in the area between Sabine Pass to the north and Brazos Santiago Pass to the south.

* The segment boundaries are considered to be the mean high tide line.