

## The Future of San Antonio Bay



San Antonio Bay and its surrounding estuary are one of the **least developed** bay systems on the Texas Coast, providing a home for the endangered North American whooping cranes, notably the last wild flock.

A group of stakeholders has organized the **San Antonio Bay Partnership** to develop a management plan that protects, restores and enhances the natural resources and human uses of the bay and estuary. The plan will guide efforts and resources into activities that achieve these goals.

The **San Antonio Bay Plan** is being developed through public and stakeholder input and scientific research.

**Stakeholder interests** include the following:

- Commercial and recreational fisheries
- Ecotourism
- Boating and aquatic recreation
- Farming and ranching
- Petrochemical processing
- Water-borne transportation
- Real estate development
- Wetlands and marsh habitats
- Public access

- Water quality
- Species diversity

### ***How you can get involved***

- Attend Stakeholder meetings to stay informed about public activities and technical studies
- Help with inventorying habitat restoration sites
- Assist in identifying potential public access sites
- Clean up beaches
- Plant marsh grasses



***Attendance at a Stakeholder Meeting***

SABP invites interested individuals, enterprises and entities to participate in the further development of the *San Antonio Bay Plan*.

For more information, see the SABP website: [www.sabaypartnership.org](http://www.sabaypartnership.org) or contact James Dodson, SABP Facilitator: 361-649-1518; [jdodson27@gmail.com](mailto:jdodson27@gmail.com)

## History of the San Antonio Bay Partnership

### 2012

- **April 18** – SABP helped host a “Texas Watershed Steward Workshop” at the Victoria Educational Gardens in Victoria, Texas.
- **May 2012** – SABP filed for 501(c)(3) status as a tax-exempt nonprofit entity.
- **July 24** – Draft final report on Habitat Conservation and Coastal Public Access presented to stakeholders. More than 60 potential habitat conservation projects were identified and characterized for potential funding.

### 2011

- **January – December** - SABP facilitated an EPA-funded wetlands/habitat inventory project which identified candidate areas within the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System for future protection/restoration/enhancement projects.
- **September** - SABP incorporated in Texas as a non-profit organization
- **October** - Board of Directors began to manage the business affairs of the group. Documents are in preparation to apply for a tax-exempt status under federal tax law.

### 2010

- **January** - San Antonio Bay Partnership formed after more than 80 stakeholders indicated they were willing to participate in a process to develop a management plan for the San Antonio Bay / Guadalupe Estuary System through public involvement and scientific research.
- **February – October** - SABP Purpose and Goals Statement developed during a series of meetings
- **November** - Science and the Stakeholder Workshop held to explain the “Status and Trends Reports” that represent the first step in developing a “San Antonio Bay Management Plan.” The reports will characterize the ecological, economic, and recreational resources associated with San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System.

### ***San Antonio Bay and Estuary System***

Fresh water from spring flow and runoff in the San Antonio and Guadalupe rivers basins mix with water from the Gulf of Mexico to create and sustain one of the seven major estuaries along the Texas coast. The San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System covers approximately 205 square miles of the middle Texas coast and includes the following major and minor bays:

- San Antonio Bay
- Espiritu Santo
- Mission Lake
- Guadalupe
- Hynes
- Mesquite