

Upper Gulf Coast Oyster Waters: TMDL Implementation Status

Date of Status Report: 2020, Year 5 of Implementation

I-Plan Approval Date: August 19, 2015

TCEQ Project Manager: Nicole Reed

Responsible Parties Abbreviations

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency (United States)

GBF - Galveston Bay Foundation

H-GAC - Houston-Galveston Area Council

TAES - Texas AgriLife Extension Service

TCEQ - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

TEEX - Texas Engineering Extension Service

TPWD - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TWUA - Texas Water Utilities Association

WWTF - Wastewater Treatment Facility

Management Measures

Management Measure 1: Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Responsible Party	Implementation Measure	Implementation Milestone	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBF ▪ TCEQ (EnviroMentors) ▪ TEEX ▪ TWUA ▪ WWTFs ▪ WWTF Workgroup 	1.1 Guidance and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidance document is written and is distributed to all permittees. ▪ Website is developed and active. ▪ Two training sessions offered on an annual basis in the project area. 	This measure is complete. TCEQ, TEEX, and TWUA continue to offer training opportunities to WWTF operators.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBF ▪ TCEQ (EnviroMentors) ▪ WWTFs ▪ WWTF Workgroup 	1.2 Pre-Permit Renewal Sampling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pre-permit renewal letters for all WWTFs are drafted, approved, and sent to permittees. ▪ Reduction in bacteria concentrations. 	This measure is complete. Galveston County Health District continued to maintain quarterly inspections.

Responsible Party	Implementation Measure	Implementation Milestone	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EPA ▪ TCEQ ▪ WWTFs 	1.3 Increase Compliance and Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of unannounced and focused investigations in project area. ▪ Development and approval of focused investigations at major and mandatory minor facilities. 	There is no update for this management measure this year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBF ▪ TCEQ ▪ WWTFs ▪ Policy and Outreach Workgroup ▪ WWTF Workgroup 	1.4 Decrease Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)	1.4a <i>Participation in the SSO Initiative</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outreach campaign plan created. ▪ Outreach campaign plan launched. ▪ Number of permittees participating in the SSO Initiative. ▪ Number of utility management workshops and its participants. 	This measure is complete. TCEQ continues to promote participation in the SSO Initiative program.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBF ▪ WWTF Workgroup 	1.4 Decrease SSOs	1.4b <i>Address Fat, Oil, Grease and Roots (FOG)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational materials for FOG developed. ▪ Number of education materials distributed relating to FOG. ▪ Educational materials posted online and number of web page visits. 	GBF continues to educate the public about FOG through its Cease the Grease campaign. The campaign's website provides educational information and free toolkits regarding FOG.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBF ▪ WWTFs ▪ WWTF Workgroup ▪ Policy and Outreach Workgroup 	1.4 Decrease SSOs	1.4c <i>Address Lateral Line Maintenance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational materials concerning lateral line maintenance responsibilities of home and business owners developed. ▪ Number of educational materials distributed. ▪ Educational materials posted online and number of website visits. 	There is no update for this management measure this year.

Management Measure 2: On-Site Sewage Facilities

Responsible Party	Implementation Measure	Implementation Milestone	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBF ▪ Authorized Agents ▪ H-GAC ▪ OSSF owners ▪ OSSF Workgroup ▪ Policy and Outreach Workgroup ▪ Research partners ▪ TCEQ ▪ TAES 	<p>2.1 Create Regional Plan to Identify, Prioritize, and Address Failing On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of OSSFs inspected. ▪ Number of OSSFs repaired or replaced. ▪ Number of OSSF related workshops offered. ▪ Criteria for prioritizing target areas established. ▪ Identification of prioritized areas. ▪ Geographic Information System (GIS) points collected at inspections added to H-GAC’s OSSF database. 	<p>H-GAC annually updates the H-GAC service area, including the counties surrounding Galveston Bay within the TMDL project boundary. These updates include permitted and registered OSSFs and estimates made to non-registered OSSFs via 911 addresses and county appraisal parcel data.</p> <p>Galveston County Health District Continues to provide GIS data to H-GAC monthly regrading OSSF installations and complaints.</p>

Management Measure 3: Boater Waste

Responsible Party	Implementation Measure	Implementation Milestone	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boater Waste Workgroup ▪ Clean Texas Marina Program ▪ Clean Vessel Committee ▪ Clear Lake Marina Association ▪ Environmental Institute of Houston ▪ GBF ▪ Galveston Bay Sail and Power Squadron ▪ Galveston County Health District ▪ Harris County Pollution Control Services ▪ Houston Safe Boating Council ▪ Houston Sail and Power Squadron ▪ Individual boaters and marinas in project area ▪ Marina Association of Texas ▪ Marine Safety Officers ▪ Maritime Sanitation ▪ Maximum Marine Services ▪ Policy and Outreach Workgroup ▪ Redfish Island Marine ▪ TCEQ ▪ Texas Department of State Health Services ▪ TPWD boater Education and Enforcement Division ▪ U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary ▪ U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Units 	<p>3.1 Increase Access to Pump-Out Facilities, Enforce Existing Regulations, Enhance Outreach and Marketing, Designate Galveston Bay as Federal No Discharge Zone (NDZ), Conduct Water Quality Monitoring in Marinas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of federal NDZ. ▪ Number of new pump-out stations and ordinances. ▪ Number of educational materials distributed. ▪ Number of marinas monitored for water quality. ▪ Volunteer monitoring sampling plan or Quality Assurance Protection Plan (QAPP). ▪ Continued tracking and improvement of outreach campaign. 	<p>H-GAC has not directly targeted boater waste, but rather relied on the leadership, expertise, and programs of the Galveston Bay Foundation. The BIG is currently updating its I-Plan to include boater waste outreach and education. That activity will mostly lend support to the GBF and the BIG will look for collaborative opportunities going forward.</p>