

NRU FOCUS AREA
Issue Area: Habitat Conservation

PRIORITY ISSUE	Issue Area Description	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	ACTION	MEASURE	TARGETED OUTPUTS (Short, Medium, Long-term)	GALVESTON BAY PLAN AREA	SAP AREA	LEAD IMPLEMENTERS	STATUS (Projects & Accomplishments)	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	
1. Vital Galveston Bay habitats have been lost or reduced in value by a range of human activities, threatening the bay's future productivity.	Conserve, restore and enhance coastal habitats in the Lower Galveston Bay Watershed	Land Acquisition	Fund and develop Conservation Assistance Programs.	Active CAPs in each sub-bay watershed of Galveston Bay	S: Maintain list of acquisition projects to submit for funding	HP-1, HP-5	Habitat and Landscape Level Conservation, Goal 1, Objective A, B (Pg. 13)	The Artist Boat, The Conservation Fund, Ducks Unlimited, Galveston Bay Foundation, Houston Audubon, Texas General Land Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	Since 2000, GBEP and partners have conserved 8,812 acres of important coastal habitats through fee-simple acquisition and conservation easements, leveraging approximately \$30 million.	
			Fund acquisition projects that leverages GBEP money for additional funds.	Adapt acquisition projects for submission to multiple funding opportunities.	M: Develop Conservation Initiative white papers for targeted sub-bay watersheds. M: Continue GBEP programmatic support for conservation assistance programs in the watershed. M: Develop grant proposals and funding strategies for acquisition projects. L: Place 5,000 acres of important coastal habitat under long-term conservation through fee-simple acquisition, conservation easements, and other mechanisms					
2. Some bay shorelines are subject to high rates of erosion and loss of stabilizing vegetation due to past subsidence, rise in sea level, and current human impacts.		Habitat Restoration	Fund projects that restore habitat(s) that leverages GBEP money for additional funds.	Active restoration plan in each sub-bay watershed of Galveston Bay	S: Identify important coastal areas to target for restoration of lost or degraded coastal habitats, using 1950's aerial imagery as a benchmark.	M: Develop funding strategies for restoration projects that can be adapted to multiple funding sources. L: Restore 2,500 acres of lost or degraded coastal habitats.	HP-1, HP-2	Habitat and Landscape Level Conservation, Goal 2, Objective A, B (Pg. 14)	Ducks Unlimited, Galveston Bay Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, NOAA Restoration, NRG Energy, Texas Coastal Watershed Program, Texas General Land Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	Since 2000, GBEP and partners have conserved 14,548 acres of important coastal habitats and 39,663 linear feet of shoreline through restoration and erosion control projects, leveraging approximately \$29 million.
				Adapt restoration projects for submission to multiple funding opportunities.	S: Identify important coastal areas to target for restoration of lost or degraded coastal habitats.					
3. Shoreline management practices do not address negative environmental consequences to the bay, or the need for environmentally compatible public access to its resources.		Habitat Enhancement	Fund projects that enhance habitat(s) that leverages GBEP money for additional funds.	Active enhancement plan in each sub-bay watershed of Galveston Bay	S: Identify important coastal areas to target for enhancement of degraded coastal habitats.	M: Develop funding strategies for enhancement projects that can be adapted to multiple funding sources. L: Enhance 5,000 acres of lost or degraded coastal habitats.	HP-1	Habitat and Landscape Level Conservation, Goal 2, Objective A, B (Pg. 14)	Armand Bayou Nature Center, Galveston Bay Foundation, Houston Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, NOAA Restoration, NRG Energy, Scenic Galveston, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	Since 2000, GBEP and partners have conserved 5,472 acres of important coastal habitats through enhancement and invasive species control projects, leveraging approximately \$330,000.
				Adapt enhancement projects for submission to multiple funding opportunities.	S: Identify important coastal areas to target for enhancement of degraded coastal habitats.					
4. Certain species of marine organisms and birds have shown a declining population trend.		Species Conservation	Refer to the Species Conservation Issue Area							
		Freshwater Inflows	Refer to the Freshwater Inflows Issue Area							

*Measurable Action	Short-Term	Actions Conceived Completion within 2-5 Years
	Medium-Term	Actions Conceived Completion within 5-10 Years
	Long-Term	Actions Conceived Completion within 10+ Years

- Global M&R Element
- Global PPE Element
- Background Information / Resources Driving Plan Content

NRU FOCUS AREA
Issue Area: Species Conservation

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
1. Certain species of marine organisms and birds have shown a declining population trend.	Sustain and restore native species populations	Native Species Management	Fund Projects that Sustain and Restore Native Species Populations.	Support native species conservation projects on public and private lands.	<p>S: Develop habitat conservation projects based on species needs.</p> <p>M: Continue to develop habitat conservation projects based on species needs.</p> <p>L: Continue to develop habitat conservation projects based on species needs.</p>	SP-1	Sustaining Species Populations, Goal 1 (Pg. 17)	Ducks Unlimited, Galveston Bay Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, NOAA Restoration, NRG Energy, Texas Coastal Watershed Program, Texas General Land Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	Several habitat restoration projects focusing on target species underway (colonial waterbirds, migratory gamebirds, oysters, etc.)
		Invasive Species Control	Fund Projects that Reduce Invasive Species.	Support invasive species management on public and private lands.	<i>See Habitat Enhancement outputs under Habitat Conservation Issue Area.</i>	SP-10	Sustaining Species Populations, Goal 2 (Pg. 17)	Ducks Unlimited, Galveston Bay Foundation, Houston Advanced Research Center, The Nature Conservancy, NOAA Restoration, NRG Energy, Texas Coastal Watershed Program, Texas General Land Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	TDA and TPWD regulate terrestrial and aquatic invasive species respectively. Many educational resources to inform public, example: texasinvasives.org . Programs to reduce abundance of invasive species occur in many locations
2. Some exotic and opportunistic species threaten native species, habitats, and ecological relationships.		Habitat Conservation	Refer to the Habitat Conservation Issue Area						
		Improve Water Quality	Refer to Habitat Conservation Issue Area and Water and Sediment Quality Objectives*						
		Freshwater Inflows	Refer to the Freshwater Inflows Issue Area*						

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NRU FOCUS AREA
Issue Area: Freshwater Inflows

PRIORITY ISSUE	Issue Area Description	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	ACTION	MEASURE	TARGETED OUTPUTS (Short, Medium, Long-term)	GALVESTON BAY PLAN AREA	SAP AREA	LEAD IMPLEMENTERS	STATUS (Projects & Accomplishments)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
N/A	Ensure Adequate Quantities of Freshwater Reaches Galveston Bay	Encourage public and GBEP stakeholder participation in regional water planning groups and the development of priorities policies that ensure adequate quantities of freshwater reach Galveston Bay.	Inform the public about opportunities to comments on Regional Water Plans to better.	Develop partnerships to inform public on opportunities to comment on regional water planning.	S: Identify opportunities to participate in the regional water planning processes to ensure that the rules that govern the regional Water Plans better protect water for wildlife.	None	Freshwater Inflow and Bay Circulation, Goal 1, Obj. A (pg. 16)	Galveston Bay Foundation, San Jacinto River Authority, Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	The Galveston Bay Freshwater Inflows Group (GBFIG) has been disbanded due to the passage of SB3. The SB3 process established the Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST) and Basin and Bay Stakeholder (BBAS) groups to discuss inflow needs. The BBEST and BBAS groups incorporated many members of the GBFIG
		Support further research to understand the annual and seasonal freshwater inflow needs for Galveston Bay, as well as information needed to develop management strategies.			M: Continue to identify opportunities to participate in the regional water planning processes to ensure that the rules that govern the regional Water Plans better protect water for wildlife.			Texas A&M Galveston, University of Houston Clear Lake, US Geological Survey, US Fish and Wildlife Service	Multiple Galveston Bay Council members sit on the Trinity/San Jacinto Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee and Basin and Bay Area Expert Science Team
		Develop or support outreach initiatives that promote water conservation and educate the public on the value and importance of freshwater inflows.			L: Continue to identify opportunities to participate in the regional water planning processes to ensure that the rules that govern the regional Water Plans better protect water for wildlife.			Galveston Bay Foundation	Freshwater Inflow Education Program
<p>The action items of the original Plan and Strategic Action Plan that have NOT been completed focus mainly on monitoring, research, and two education and outreach actions. Since SB-3/BBASC/BBEST process began/concluded, NRU has not actively worked in implementing the FW plan. Possible Solution: Transfer development of FW Issue area to M&R; open to suggestion</p>									

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