

Galveston Bay Council Meeting



A PROGRAM OF TCEQ

July 16, 2025
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

M&R FY26 Subcommittee Priorities

- ▶ Meaningful and effective monitoring of existing, past, and new projects (NRU: especially species of concern, WSQ, PPE).
- ▶ Baseline assessments for large-scale, man-made changes to Galveston Bay.
- ▶ Assessment, exposure, and response to stressors, including but not limited to:
 - ▶ Species of Greatest Conservation Need;
 - ▶ Contact recreation standards;
 - ▶ Environmental parameters;
 - ▶ Emerging contaminants; and
 - ▶ Legacy contaminants.
- ▶ Investigate ecosystem services and economic valuation of bay resources.



NRU FY26 Subcommittee Priorities

- ▶ Habitat acquisition.
- ▶ Enhancement of existing or ongoing restoration/conservation efforts with special emphasis on:
 - ▶ Adaptive management for previously completed projects;
 - ▶ Projects that have lost funding from other federal sources; and
 - ▶ Nonnative species management.
- ▶ Benefit to native fish and wildlife, including federal and state listed species, Species of Greatest Conservation Need, or nongame wildlife.
- ▶ Brings funding, work leverage, or multiple Priority Area/Subcommittee benefits to the program.
- ▶ Project urgency: Project must be completed in next 24 months or opportunity is lost.



PPE FY26 Subcommittee Priorities

- ▶ Empowers K-12 students and/or adults to positively impact their local environment through increased scientific literacy and community projects.
- ▶ Connects new audiences to existing/completed projects or the natural habitat.
- ▶ Opportunities for GBEP and partners to host workshops/networking events for education and outreach practitioners on key topics.
- ▶ Conservation and environmental workforce development.



WSQ FY26 Subcommittee Priorities

- ▶ Supporting management measures and watershed-based plans.
- ▶ Implementation and/or evaluation of best management practices that address point and nonpoint source pollution.
- ▶ Public health risk awareness outreach campaigns related to contact recreation and/or seafood consumption.



FY27 Section 320 and State Proposal Timeline

June 23: Request for Proposals Released

July 25: Proposals Due

August 13: Send Proposals to Subcommittee Members for Review

September 10: Present Proposals at Subcommittee Meetings for Recommendations

October 1: Present Proposals to B&P Subcommittee for Final Recommendation

October 15: Present Proposals to Galveston Bay Council for Approval

FY26 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Proposal Timeline

June 23: Release Request for Proposals

August 8: Proposals Due

September 2: Send Proposals to Subcommittee Members for Review

October 1: Present Proposals to B&P Subcommittee for Final Recommendation

October 15: Present Proposals to Galveston Bay Council for Approval

THE GALVESTON BAY PLAN, 2ND EDITION

PLAN PRIORITY 1: ENSURE SAFE HUMAN AND AQUATIC LIFE USE

ACTION
PLANS

IMPROVE WATER QUALITY THROUGH
NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION ABATEMENT (NPS)

IMPROVE WATER QUALITY THROUGH
POINT SOURCE POLLUTION ABATEMENT (PS)

PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH AND AWARENESS (PHA)

PLAN PRIORITY 2: PROTECT AND SUSTAIN LIVING RESOURCES

ACTION
PLANS

SUPPORT HABITAT CONSERVATION (HC)

SUPPORT SPECIES CONSERVATION (SC)

SUSTAIN FRESHWATER INFLOWS (FWI)

PLAN PRIORITY 3: ENGAGE COMMUNITIES

ACTION
PLANS

PRESERVE GALVESTON BAY THROUGH STAKEHOLDER AND PARTNER OUTREACH
(SPO)

SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS (PEA)

PLAN PRIORITY 4: INFORM SCIENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING

ACTION
PLANS

COLLABORATE WITH RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS TO SUPPORT FOCUS ON APPLIED
RESEARCH AND MONITORING (RES)

INCREASE ACCESS TO GALVESTON BAY
ECOSYSTEM INFORMATION (ACS)

PLAN PRIORITIES MATRIX

ACTION PLANS AND CORRESPONDING ACTIONS		PLAN PRIORITIES			
		Ensure Safe Human and Aquatic Life Use	Protect and Sustain Living Resources	Engage Communities	Inform Science-Based Decision Making
Action Plan: Improve Water Quality Through Nonpoint Source Pollution Abatement (NPS)					
NPS-1	Support Watershed-Based Plan Development and Implementation	x	x	x	x
NPS-2	Support Nonpoint Source Education and Outreach Campaigns	x	x	x	
NPS-3	Implement NPS Best Management Practices	x	x		x
NPS-4	Host Nonpoint Source Workshops	x		x	x
Action Plan: Improve Water Quality Through Point Source Pollution Abatement (PS)					
PS-1	Support Stormwater Education Programs	x		x	
PS-2	Achieve Sanitary Sewer System Capacity and Integrity	x		x	
PS-3	Increase Wastewater Treatment Facility Compliance	x		x	
Action Plan: Promote Public Health and Awareness (PHA)					
PHA-1	Improve Seafood Advisory Awareness	x		x	x
PHA-2	Improve Regional Contact Recreation Risk Awareness	x		x	
PHA-3	Improve Contact Recreation Safety Through Watershed-Based Plans (WBPs)	x			x
PHA-4	Improve Shellfish Consumption Safety Through WBPs	x		x	x
PHA-5	Improve Finfish Consumption Safety Through WBPs	x		x	x
Action Plan: Support Habitat Conservation (HC)					
HC-1	Land Acquisition	x	x		
HC-2	Habitat Restoration	x	x		
HC-3	Habitat Enhancement	x	x		
Action Plan: Support Species Conservation (SC)					
SC-1	Native Species Management		x	x	x
SC-2	Invasive Species Control		x	x	x
Action Plan: Sustain Freshwater Inflows (FWI)					
FWI-1	Regional Planning for Freshwater Inflows	x	x	x	
FWI-2	Freshwater Inflows Research and Management	x	x		x
FWI-3	Water Conservation and Education	x	x	x	

ACTION PLANS AND CORRESPONDING ACTIONS		PLAN PRIORITIES			
		Ensure Safe Human and Aquatic Life Use	Protect and Sustain Living Resources	Engage Communities	Inform Science-Based Decision Making
Action Plan: Preserve Galveston Bay Through Stakeholder and Partner Outreach (SPO)					
SPO-1	Stewardship Programs and Volunteer Opportunities	x	x	x	
SPO-2	Workshops and Events	x	x	x	
SPO-3	Support Regional Initiatives	x	x	x	x
SPO-4	Local Government Outreach	x	x	x	x
Action Plan: Support Public Education and Awareness Initiatives (PEA)					
PEA-1	Key Issue Engagement	x	x	x	x
PEA-2	Adult Education	x	x	x	
PEA-3	Kindergarten to 12th Grade (K-12) Education Efforts			x	
Action Plan: Collaborate with Research Institutions to Support Focus Area Applied Research and Monitoring (RES)					
RES-1	Conduct Biological Stressor Monitoring and Research	x	x	x	x
RES-2	Conduct Geochemical Stressor Monitoring and Research	x	x	x	x
RES-3	Conduct Physical Stressor Monitoring and Research	x	x	x	x
RES-4	Conduct Monitoring and Research to Address Limits to Contact Recreation	x		x	x
RES-5	Conduct Monitoring and Research to Address Limits to Seafood Consumption	x		x	x
RES-6	Evaluate Best Management Practice (BMP) Projects	x		x	x
RES-7	Conduct Research on Ecosystem Service and Economic Valuation of Bay Resources				x
RES-8	Complete Coastal Resiliency and Acclimation Studies				x
Action Plan: Increase Access to Galveston Bay Ecosystem Information (ACS)					
ACS-1	Tracking Ecosystem Health Indicators	x	x	x	x
ACS-2	Access to Monitoring and Research Data	x	x	x	x
ACS-3	Track Galveston Bay Plan Implementation	x	x	x	x