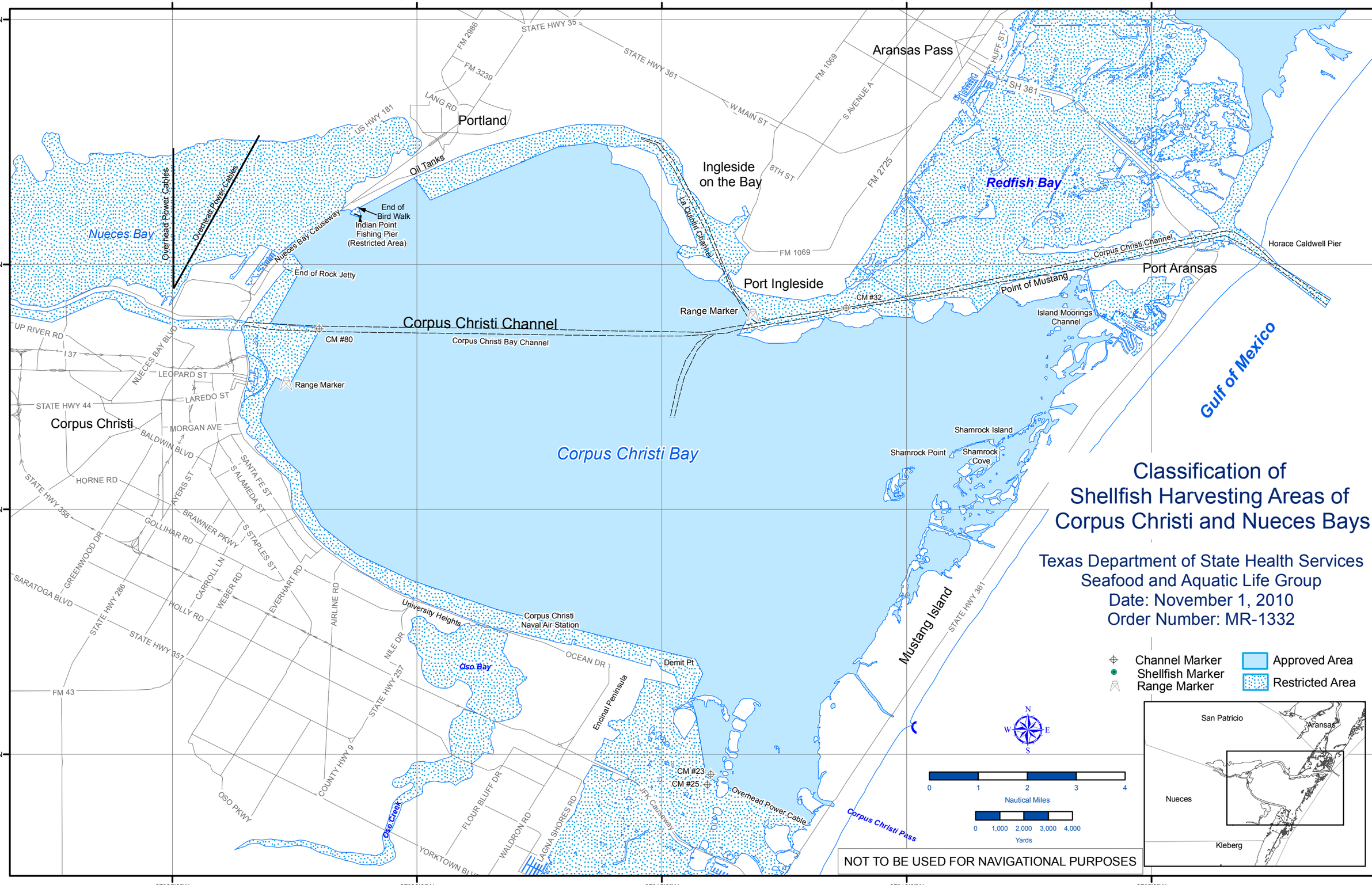
Classification of Shellfish Harvesting Areas of Corpus Christi and Nueces Bays

Texas Department of State Health Services
Seafood and Aquatic Life Group
Date: November 1, 2010
Order Number: MR-1332



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The status of shellfish growing waters in Texas estuaries is subject to change by the Texas Department of State Health Services at any time. These changes may be due to high rainfall and runoff, flooding, hurricanes and other extreme weather conditions, major spills, red tides, or the failure or inefficient operation of wastewater treatment facilities. Current status of shellfish harvesting areas may be obtained from your local Texas Parks and Wildlife Department office or by calling, **toll-free (in state only), 1-800-685-0361.**

PROHIBITED AREAS: All areas not specifically designated as Restricted or Approved are classified as Prohibited and are closed to the harvesting of molluscan shellfish.

RESTRICTED AREAS: (closed to the taking of shellfish)

That area of the Laguna Madre south of a line from Demit Point (Latitude 27° 41’ 20” N, Longitude 97° 14’ 40” W) southeastward to the junction of the overhead power cable and the Intracoastal Waterway (Latitude 27° 39’ 34” N, Longitude 97° 13’ 54” W, located between Intracoastal Waterway Channel Markers #23 and #25) and continuing eastward along the overhead power cable to its intersection with the Padre Island shoreline (Latitude 27° 38’ 37” N, Longitude 97° 11’ 56” W).

That inshore area of Corpus Christi Bay for a distance of 700 yards offshore beginning at the southern tip of Demit Point, at the east end of the Naval Air Station, and extending along the shoreline to the Causeway at Rincon Point.

That inshore area of Corpus Christi Bay bound by a line from the end of the rock jetty next to the USS Lexington eastward to Corpus Christi Channel Marker #80, then southwest to a range marker , then north and west to the southern end of the Corpus Christi Municipal Marina rock jetty.

That inshore area of Corpus Christi bay bounded by a line eastward from the northeast land bound approach to the Causeway at Indian Point to the end of the Indian Point Fishing pier, then northerly to the observation deck at the end of the bird walk.

That inshore area of Corpus Christi Bay for a distance of 500 yards offshore beginning at the Oil Tanks located on the shoreline of sunset lake (Latitude 27° 51’ 55” N, Longitude 97° 20’ 07” W) and extending along the shoreline to the north end of the spoil island at La Quinta Channel (Latitude 27° 52’ 34” N, Longitude 97° 16’ 07” W) and continuing along the outside shoreline of the spoil island to the range marker (Latitude 27° 49’ 20.9” N, Longitude 97° 13’ 56.2” W) and continuing to the tip of spoil island (Latitude 27° 48’ 34.6” N, Longitude 97° 13’ 26.9” W) then continuing down the channel to the Point of Mustang.

All the area of Corpus Christi Bay east of the Island Mooring Channel.

All of Nueces Bay west of the Nueces Bay Causeway.

All of Redfish Bay as indicated on the map on the reverse side.

All residential subdivision channels and harbor areas up to a radius of 300 yards offshore from the shoreline where the channels become land bound.

All areas within a 50 yard radius of recreational cabins and houseboats located on the bay.

APPROVED AREAS: For current status, contact your local Texas Parks and Wildlife Department office, or call, toll-free (in state only), 1-800-685-0361.

The approved area of Corpus Christi Bay is that area inside of a line beginning at the intersection of the overhead power cable and the Padre Island shoreline, westward along the overhead power cable to its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway between Markers #23 and #25, then northwest to 700 yards offshore of Demit Point, extending 700 yards from the shoreline to the Nueces Bay Causeway 700 yards off of Rincon Point, then along the Nueces Bay Causeway to the northeast land bound approach to the Causeway at Indian Point, to the end of the Indian Point Fishing Pier, then north to the observation deck at the end of the bird walk. Beginning at the Oil Tanks along the shore to one-half mile west of Portland extending 500 yards offshore, then continuing along the shoreline 500 yards to outside tip of spoil island at La Quinta Channel, and continuing to Range Marker (Latitude 27° 49’ 20.9” N, Longitude 97° 13’ 56.2” W) to tip of the adjacent spoil on the south side of the Corpus Christi Ship Channel then to the Point of Mustang, then to Island Moorings Channel, then along the Mustang island shoreline, returning to the overhead power cable.

Excluded from these areas are the restricted areas around cabins, houseboats, subdivision channels, and harbor areas described above.