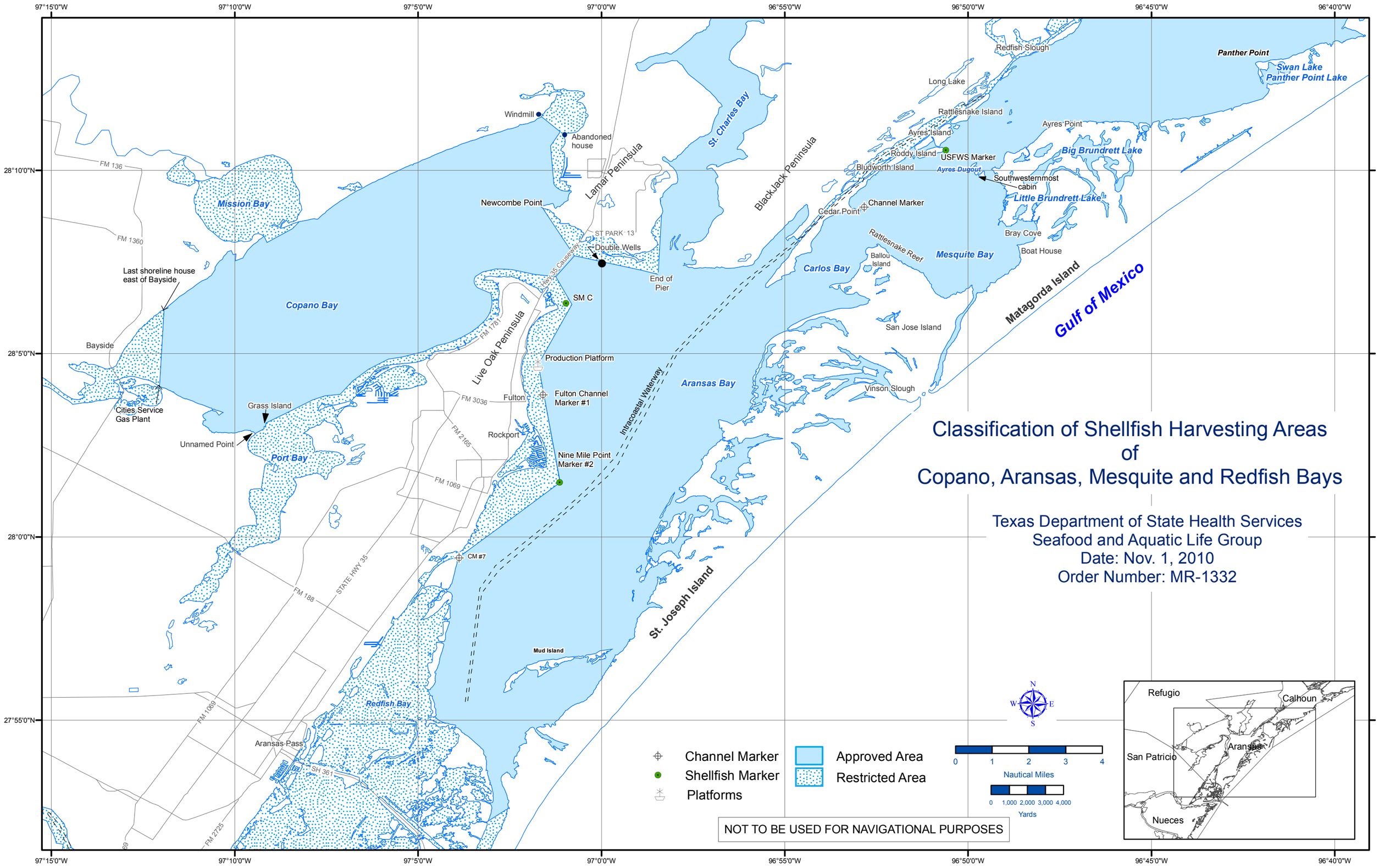
Classification of Shellfish Harvesting Areas of Copano, Aransas, Mesquite and Redfish Bays

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



CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH HARVESTING AREAS

OF

COPANO, ARANSAS, MESQUITE AND REDFISH BAYS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES
SEAFOOD AND AQUATIC LIFE GROUP

DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2010 ORDER NUMBER: MR-1332

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 of inefficient operation of wastewater treatment facilities. Current status of shellfish harvesting areas can be obtained from your local Texas Parks and Wildlife Department office or by calling(in state only), **toll free, 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)

All of Mission Bay from the mouth inland.

That area of Copano Bay and the Aransas River west of a line from a point near the last shoreline house east of Bayside to a point due south where the Cities Service Gas Plant Channel becomes land bound.

That area of Copano Bay inshore of a line 200 yards offshore beginning at the southwestern end of the Highway 35 Causeway at the end of Live Oak Peninsula and extending west to Redfish Point and then south and west to Grass Island then southwest to unnamed point.

That area of Copano Bay north of a line beginning 300 yards south of the northern approach to the Highway 35 Causeway, then in a Northwesterly direction to Newcomb Point.

That inshore area of Copano Bay from windmill and extending southeasterly to the abandoned house (Lat. 28° 10’ 44” N; Long. 97° 01’ 02” W), then from the abandoned house out 200 yards offshore and extending southerly to the mouth of the tributary entering Copano Bay at Newcomb Bend.

That inshore area of Aransas Bay adjacent to Fulton Beach west of a line from the highest part of the Highway 35 Causeway, to Shellfish Marker C, to the production platform off Fulton Beach, to Fulton Channel Marker #1 off Fulton Harbor, to Marker #2 off Nine Mile Point, to Intracoastal Waterway Channel Marker #7.

That area of Aransas Bay north of a line beginning 300 yards south of the northern approach to the Highway 35 Causeway, extending easterly to a set of double wells off the west point of Goose Island, to the end of the pier at Goose Island, then northerly to an unnamed point of land located about 1,650 yards north of Hail Point.

All of the Intracoastal Waterway and inland waters where they become land bound between Aransas Bay and San Antonio Bay.

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

All areas within 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 Copano Bay is defined as the area north and east of the Highway 35 Causeway excluding the restricted areas described above.

The approved area of St. Charles Bay is that area northeast of a line from the end of the Goose Island State Park pier east to Blackjack Point.

The approved area of Aransas Bay is that area south of the Highway 35 Causeway and west of a line from the end of Goose Island State Park pier east to Blackjack Point, and west of a line separating Carlos Bay and Mesquite Bay by a line from Cedar Point (Lat. 28° 08.985’ N; Lon. 96° 52.916’ W) to the channel marker in Cedar Dugout near Cedar Point (Lat. 28° 08.991’ N; Lon. 96° 52.837’ W), to the point of land on Ballou Island that is located approximately 300 yards southwest of Rattlesnake Reef .

The approved area of Mesquite Bay is that area east of a line from Cedar Point (Lat. 28° 08.985’ N; Lon. 96° 52.916’ W) to the channel marker in Cedar Dugout near Cedar Point (Lat. 28° 08.991’ N; Lon. 96° 52.837’ W), to the point of land on Ballou Island that is located approximately 300 yards southwest of Rattlesnake Reef, and west of the following line separating Mesquite Bay and the South Approved Area of San Antonio Bay. This line goes from the northeastern tip of Roddy Island to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Marker (Lat. 28° 10’ 26.5” N; Lon. 96° 50’ 40.4” W) to the southwestern most cabin at Ayres Dugout (Lat. 28° 10’06.3” N; Lon. 96° 49’ 56.6” W) thence in an east-southeasterly (110 degrees) direction to the Matagorda Island Shoreline (Lat. 28° 09’53.0” N; Lon. 96° 49’ 09.0” W). Excluded from these areas are the restricted areas around cabins, houseboats, subdivision channels and harbor areas described above.