

CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH HARVESTING AREAS

OF

COPANO, ARANSAS, MESQUITE AND REDFISH BAYS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES SEAFOOD AND AQUATIC LIFE OPERATIONS BRANCH

DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2023 ORDER NUMBER: MR-1820

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 (Lat. 28.1148630° N; Long. 97.1854360° W) to a point due south to the end of long pier (Lat. 28.065449° N; Long. 97.190705° W) following the pier to shore.

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 (Lat. 28.133269° N; Long. 97.010791° W) 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 200 yards south of the northern approach to the Highway 35 Causeway (Lat. 28.114973° N; Long. 97.023616° W), then in a Northwesterly direction to Newcomb Point.

That inshore area of Copano Bay from windmill (Lat. 28.1885490° N; Long. 97.0377120° W) and extending southeasterly to the two story yellow sided house (Lat. 28.173433° N; Long. 97.015950° W), then out 200 yards offshore and extending southerly to the mouth of the tributary entering Copano Bay at Newcomb Bend (Lat. 28.1575870° N, Long. 97.0145070° W).

That inshore area of St. Charles Bay northeast of a line from the end of the Goose Island State Park pier to the spoil island (Lat. 28.1222860° N; Long. 96.9690990° W), then east to Blackjack Point.

That inshore area of Aransas Bay adjacent to Fulton Beach west of a line 200 yards from the southern approach of the Highway 35 Causeway, to Channel Marker #3, 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. (Note: Need to identify Redfish Bay on map)

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

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

<u>TX 28:</u>

TX 28 is that area of Mesquite Bay east of a line from Cedar Point (Lat. 28.1497500° N; Long. 96.8819330° W) to the channel marker in Cedar Dugout near Cedar Point (Lat. 28.1498500° N; Long. 96.8806170° W), to the point of land on Ballou Island (Lat. 28.1329890° N; Long. 96.874346° W) 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. 28.1740280° N; Long. 96.8445560° W) to the southernmost cabin at Ayres Dugout (Lat. 28.1684170° N; Long. 96.8323890° W) following the southwestern shoreline of the spoil islands located southeast of Ayres Dugout (Lat. 28.1702580° N, Long. 96.8294710° W) thence in an east-southeasterly (110 degrees) direction to the Matagorda Island Shoreline (Lat. 28.1672890° N; Long. 96.8227870° W).

<u>TX 29:</u>

TX 29 is that area of Aransas Bay west of a line from Cedar Point (Lat. 28.1497500° N; Long. 96.8819330° W) to the channel marker in Cedar Dugout near Cedar Point (Lat. 28.1498500° N; Long. 96.8806170° W), to the point of land on Ballou Island (Lat. 28.1329890° N; Long. 96.874346° W) that is located approximately 300 yards southwest of Rattlesnake Reef follows the St. Joseph Island shoreline to Lydia Ann Channel Island and then north to Channel Marker #93 (Lat. 27.8969270° N; Long. 97.0495190° W) and across the channel to Range Marker #92 (Lat. 28.8997890° N; Long. 96.0514680° W), then to an unnamed point (Lat. 28.9026290° N; Long. 96.0540150° W) following the shoreline north to Channel Marker #7, to Channel Marker #29 following along the Intracoastal Waterway north to Dunham Island and ending back at Cedar Point.

<u>TX 30:</u>

TX 30 is that area of Aransas Bay south of the Highway 35 Causeway and west of a line from the end of Goose Island State Park pier east to spoil island (Lat. 28.1222860° N; Long. 96.9690990° W) then to Blackjack Point, and east to Dunham Point to Channel Marker #7 in the Intracoastal waterway which proceeds south and west to Dunham Island, following the Intracoastal waterway south and west to Channel Marker #29, to Channel Marker #2 near Nine Mile Point, then to Fulton Channel Marker #1, to the production platform off Fulton Beach, to Channel Marker #3, to the southern approach of the Highway 35 Causeway, to the north approach of the Highway 35 Causeway, extending easterly to a set of double wells off the west point of Goose Island, and back to the end of the pier at Goose Island.

TX 32:

TX 32 is that area of Copano Bay north and west of the Highway 35 Causeway excluding the restricted areas described above.

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