# Texas A&M University at Galveston

## Jack K. Williams Library

---

# Dr. Thomas L. Linton

## Research Files: Inventory

---


**Creator:** Linton, Thomas L.


**Title:** Research Files

**Date:** 1981-1988.


**Abstract:** Retired faculty from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station; current faculty at Texas A&M University at Galveston in the Marine Resource Management graduate program. This collection contains the records of three research projects conducted in the 1980s pertaining to the impact of seismic surveying on marine environments. Correspondence files, drafts, contracts, and copies of publications listed in the final bibliography of a literature review funded by the International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC). In addition, there are two papers pertaining to seismic detonation in Galveston's Smiths Point/East Bay Project (1981) and the Lake of the Pines Project in a freshwater lake in Texas, 1985-1986.


**Location:** MC 19

**Size:** 2 cubic feet.


**Repository:** Jack K. Williams Library, Archives and Manuscripts, Texas A&M University at Galveston. Phone: 409-740-4560; Email: LIBRARY@tamug.edu


**Donor:** Dr. Thomas Linton, 2002.

---

## Biographical Background:

Born in 1935, Dr. Thomas Linton attended Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas (BA, 1959); University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma (M.S., 1961); and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, (Ph.D., 1965). Dr. Linton was a research scientist at the University of Georgia's Marine Institute on Sapelo Island, Georgia, where he developed the state's oyster management plan for the Georgia Game and Fish Commission, which is still in use today. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, he served as the Commissioner of Fisheries of the State of North Carolina, where he served on the 15-member committee of the Council of State Governments. As Director of the Office of Marine Affairs of North Carolina from 1973-1975, he guided the development of

the draft legislation which became the State of North Carolina's coastal zone management program. In 1975, he moved to Australia to serve as the Director of Environmental Studies at the State of Victoria's Ministry for Conservation. Returning to Texas in 1979, he served as the Director of Environmental Programs at the Gulf University Research Consortium (GURC), where he conducted field testing of the environmental impact of newly-developed oil dispersant for use on the largest oil spill in North America, which occurred in the Gulf of Campeche, Mexico. Based on this research, the dispersant was given approval by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is still in use today, most recently at the Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf of Mexico. In 1981, Dr. Linton joined the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Science at Texas A&M University. In the course of his 20-plus years with the university, he served as the chairman and major advisor on the graduate committees for sixty Masters Students and ten PhDs. After retiring from Texas A&M in College Station in 2002, Dr. Linton returned home to Galveston County. At the time, Texas A&M in Galveston had just started a graduate program in Marine Resource Management. He was asked to teach two core curriculum courses (Coastal Zone Management and Wetlands Management). He continues to teach these courses to the present time and as well as chair graduate committees. In 2012, Dr. Linton was presented with the Teaching Excellence Award, the Texas A&M System's highest honor for its educators in all fields.

In regards to the records in this collection, in 1983, the International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) and the Texas A&M Center for Mineral Reserves funded a bibliography and literature review of the impact of seismic surveying on marine environments under the direction of Dr. Linton with Dr. Andre M. Landry, Nadine Hall and David LaBomascus. These files contain the correspondence, drafts and reviews of the study, methods, and copies of articles appearing in the bibliography. This resulted in a publication: "Effects of Seismic sounds on marine Organism: An Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review" published October 1985.

*Sources:*

*" Effects of Seismic Sounds on marine Organisms: An Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review," Thomas Linton, Nadine Hall, David LaBomascus (TAMU) and Andre M. Landry (TAMUG), October 1985.*

*Website "Thomas Linton." Texas A&M University at Galveston.*

*Dr. Thomas L. Linton Research Files, 1983-1985. Research Proposal in the Linton Collection (MC 19). Texas A&M University at Galveston, Library.*

*Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological society [Newsletter-on the web], Dec.2012.*

---

## Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains miscellaneous files from three research projects conducted by Dr. Linton and associates during the 1980s pertaining to the impact of seismic surveying on marine environments.

The bulk of the records pertain to a bibliography and literature review containing correspondence files, drafts, contracts, and copies of publications listed in the final bibliography pertaining to Dr. Linton's literature review funded by the International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC). In addition, there are two papers pertaining to seismic detonation in Galveston's Smiths Point/East Bay Project (1981) and the Lake of the Pines Project in a freshwater lake, 1985-1986.

In addition, there are two significant papers pertaining to seismic detonation in Galveston's Smiths Point/East Bay Project (1981) and the Lake of the Pines Project in a freshwater lake in Texas, 1985-1986. Both of these papers resulted in a public policy change regarding seismic detonation methods and Texas refusal to allow detonation in fresh water lakes.

---

**Series:**



---

## Series 1: Biographical Information

| Box/Fd. | |
|---|---|
| 1/1 | Misc. Biographical Information |

## Series 2: Correspondence, 1979-1993

| Box/Fd. | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2-9 | Correspondence Files, 1979-1993. |

## Series 3: Research Projects

Box/Fd.

1 10 **Galveston Smith's Point/East Bay Project, 1981**
Field study pertaining to the effects of explosives on Marine Organisms conducted by Thomas L. Linton, Andre M. Landry, James E. Buckner, and Robert L. Berry. As a result of this study, Primacord was no longer used for geophysical exploration. Funded by Texas Agriculture Extension Service and the Texas A&M University Sea Grant College Program.
Resulting publication: "The Effects of Explosives Used for Sound Production in Geophysical Exploration upon Marine Organisms," *Texas Journal of Science*, Vol. 47, No. 4, p.39-45.

**Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review, 1982-1985**
Tom Linton, Project Director, with Nadine Hall, David LaBomascus (all TAMU) and Andre M. Landry (TAMUG. In 1982, the International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) and the Texas A&M Center for Mineral Reserves funded a bibliography and literature review of the impact of seismic surveying on marine environments

These files contain the correspondence, drafts and reviews of the study, methods, and copies of articles appearing in the bibliography. This resulted in a publication: "Effects of Seismic sounds on marine Organism: An Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review" published October 1985 by Texas A&M Sea Grant College Program.

1/11-14 International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) Marine Operations Committee:
Committee meeting agendas, notes, membership, 1983
Dr. Linton's Presentations before the IAGC Committee, 1983
Revised Memorandum of Agreement: IAGC and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, 1983
Funding: Corres with IAGC and TAMU's Center for Energy and Mineral Resources.

1/15 Article about Project: Koen, A. D. "Study of OCS Ecosystem to Provide Firm Foundation for Future Research," The American Oil & Gas Reporter, April [1983?].

1/16 "Effects of Seismic Sounds on Marine Organisms: An Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review. Various drafts of the Literature Review [Final Title]. There were several working titles for the article and bibliography, including "Data Base Development for Geophysical Exploration . . ."; and, "The Effects of Sound Generation for Geophysical Exploration . . .".

1/17 General Land Office Rules: Rules and Regulations regarding Seismic Surveys in Texas. Other miscellaneous documents.

1/18 Literature Search: DRAFT by Nadine Hall, 1983.

1/19-20 Reviews of Draft. Reviewers include Leland Roberts (Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.) and Bruce Smith (General Land Office).

**1985-1986 Lake of the Pines Project**

Seismic Study at the freshwater Lake of the Pines, by Thomas L. Linton and Brian R. Murphy. As a result of this project, it became public policy that there would be no more detonations of seismic charges in freshwater lakes.

1/21 Proposal: "Comparative Study of the Effects of Seismic Exploration Upon Selected Marine Organisms."

1/22 Various drafts of paper: "A Preliminary Summary of a Study of the Effects of Detonation of Buried Seismic Charges upon Caged Fishes in Lake of the Pines, Upshur County, Texas," by Thomas Linton and Brian Murphy, 1981.

1/23-25 Data and Seismic Notes.

1/26 Amoco Production Company Research Department, "Pressure Waves in a Lake Created by dynamite Explosion in a Shot Hole," 1986.

## 1/27-29 Series 4: Publications

Linton, Thomas L. "Field Evaluation of the Effectiveness of COREXIT 9527 Chemical Dispersant on the IXTOC 1 Oil Spill, Bay of Campeche, Mexico. GURC Report No. 179. July 1980.

Linton, Thomas L., Andre M. Landry, Nadine Hall and David LaBomascus. "Data Base Development for Geophysical Exploration Guidelines: An Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review," [1983?]

Linton, Thomas L., Andre M. Landry, Jr., James E. Buckner, Jr., and Robert L. Berry. "Effects Upon Selected Marine Organisms of Explosives used for sound production in Geophysical Exploration." *Texas Journal of Science*, Vol. XXXVII, No. 4, December 1985.

Linton, Thomas L. and Brian R. Murphy. "A Study of the Effects of Detonation of Buried Seismic Charges upon Caged Fishes in Lake of the Pines Upshur County, Texas, [1985].

Benefield, Richard L. and Thomas L. Linton. "Movement of Blue Crabs in Trinity Bay." Management Data Series No. 16, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Fisheries Division, 1990.

Traxler, Stephen L., Brian R. Murphy, and Thomas L. Linton. "Subsediment Seismic Explosions Do Not Injure Caged Fishes in a Freshwater Reservoir." *Journal of Freshwater Ecology*, Volume 8, Number 1, March, 1993.

## Series 5: Articles in the Bibliography

| Box/Fd. | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Arranged alphabetically by the surname of the author. |

## Series 6: Teaching and Curriculum

| Box/Fd. | |
|---|---|
| 3/1 | Teacher training program materials, Texas A&M University, 2004 |
| 3/2 | Puerto Rico itinerary and pamphlets (MARM research trip), 2009 |
| 3/3 | Puerto Rico photo book, 2009 |
| 3/4 | Puerto Rico magazines, 2009 |