

ATLAS OF ESTUARINE RESOURCES

The bay systems of Texas constitute a valuable natural resource, for they serve in many capacities for a variety of functions. In addition to the shrimp, fish, crabs, and oysters which comprise the coastal fisheries the bays provide habitat for fur bearers and waterfowl and vast areas for recreational use.

As natural inland waterways, they provide low cost transportation and the water itself serves as coolant to many industrial installations. Beneath the water lie other valuable products including petroleum and oyster shell.

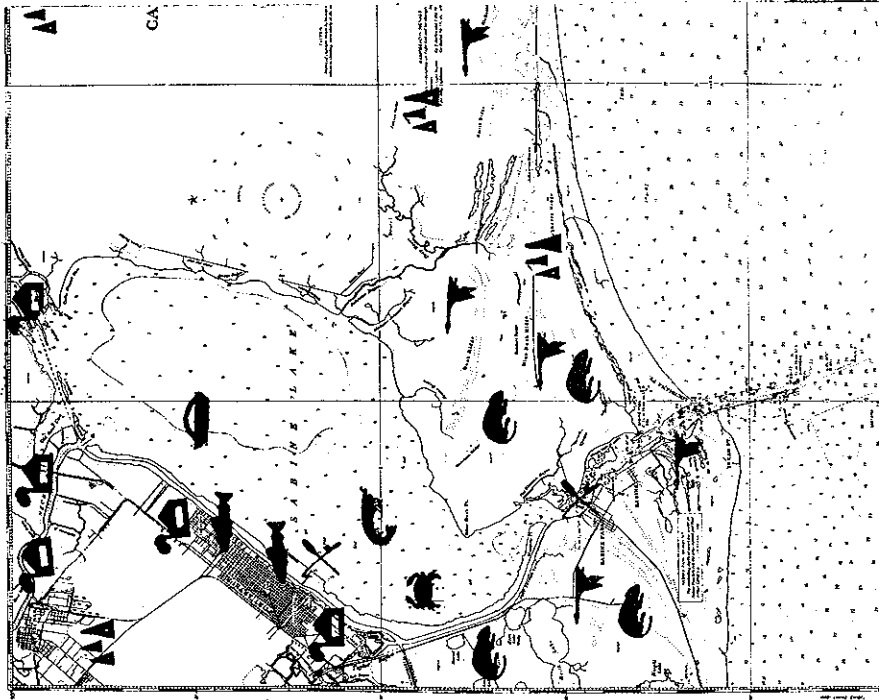
The utilization of these assets must be coordinated so that the harvest of one does not unnecessarily prevent the use of another. It was for this purpose that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, an organization composed of the five Gulf states and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service established its Estuarine Technical Coordinating Committee.

Each member state in the compact was asked to prepare an atlas showing the multiple uses and resources of its bays. The Texas atlas, compiled by the Coastal Fisheries staff and reproduced with the cooperation of personnel of the Galveston Biological Laboratory of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is presented here.

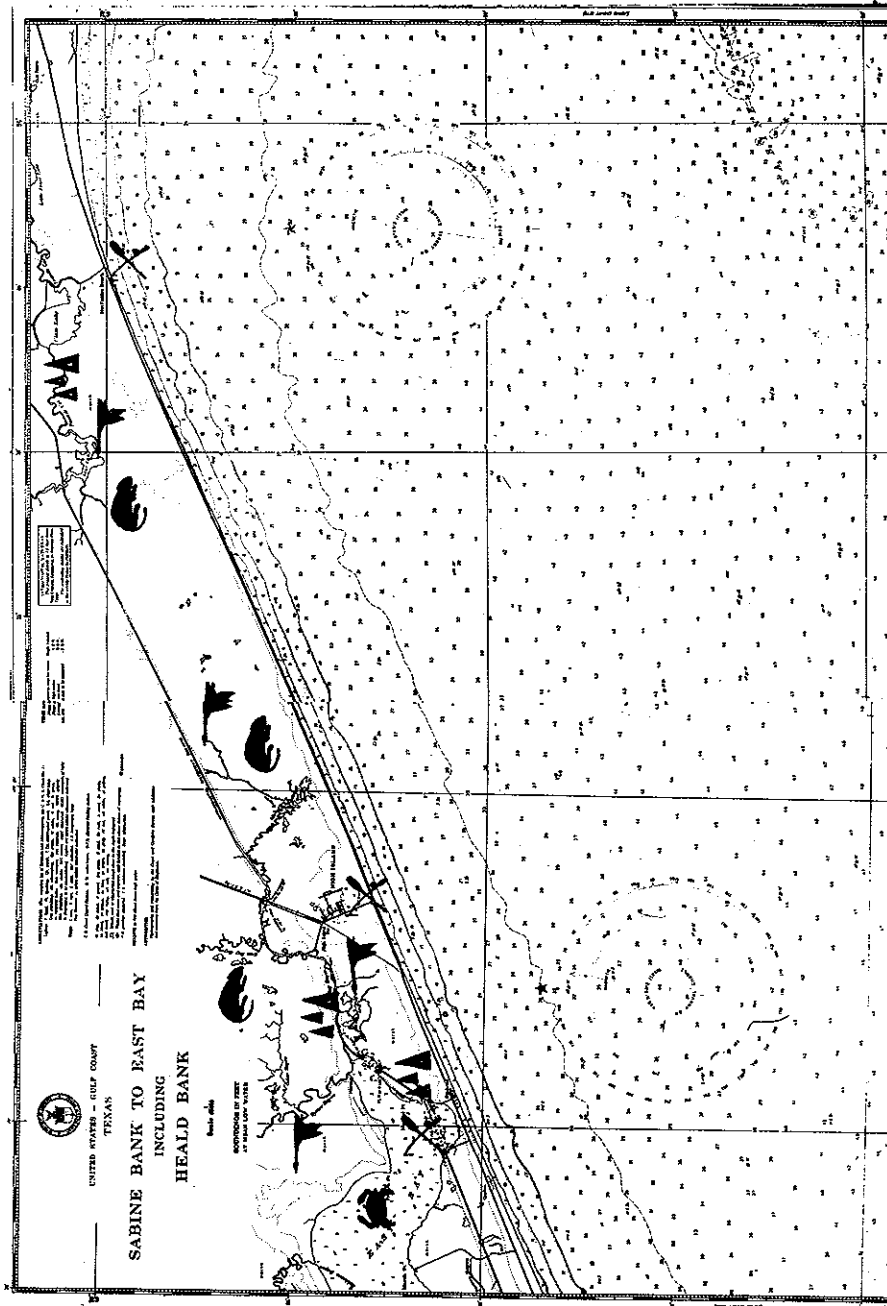
The multipurpose uses and the areas of their location are indicated by symbols representing industry, petroleum, recreation, fur trapping, waterfowl, crabs, oysters, shrimp, fish, and shell dredging.

KEY TO SYMBOLS

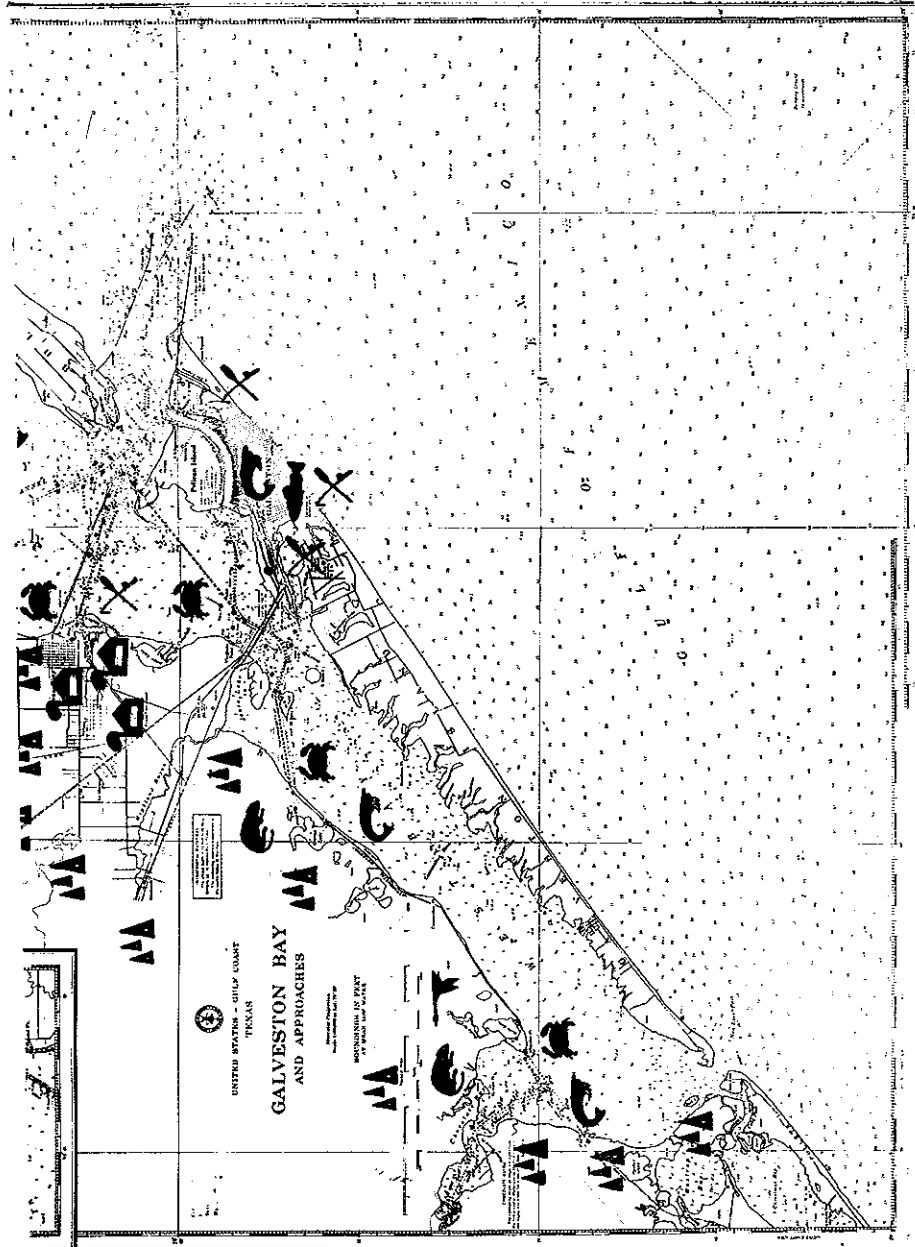
Industry	
Petroleum	
Waterfowl	
Fur trapping	
Recreation	
Crabs	
Shell dredging	
Fish	
Oysters	
Shrimp	



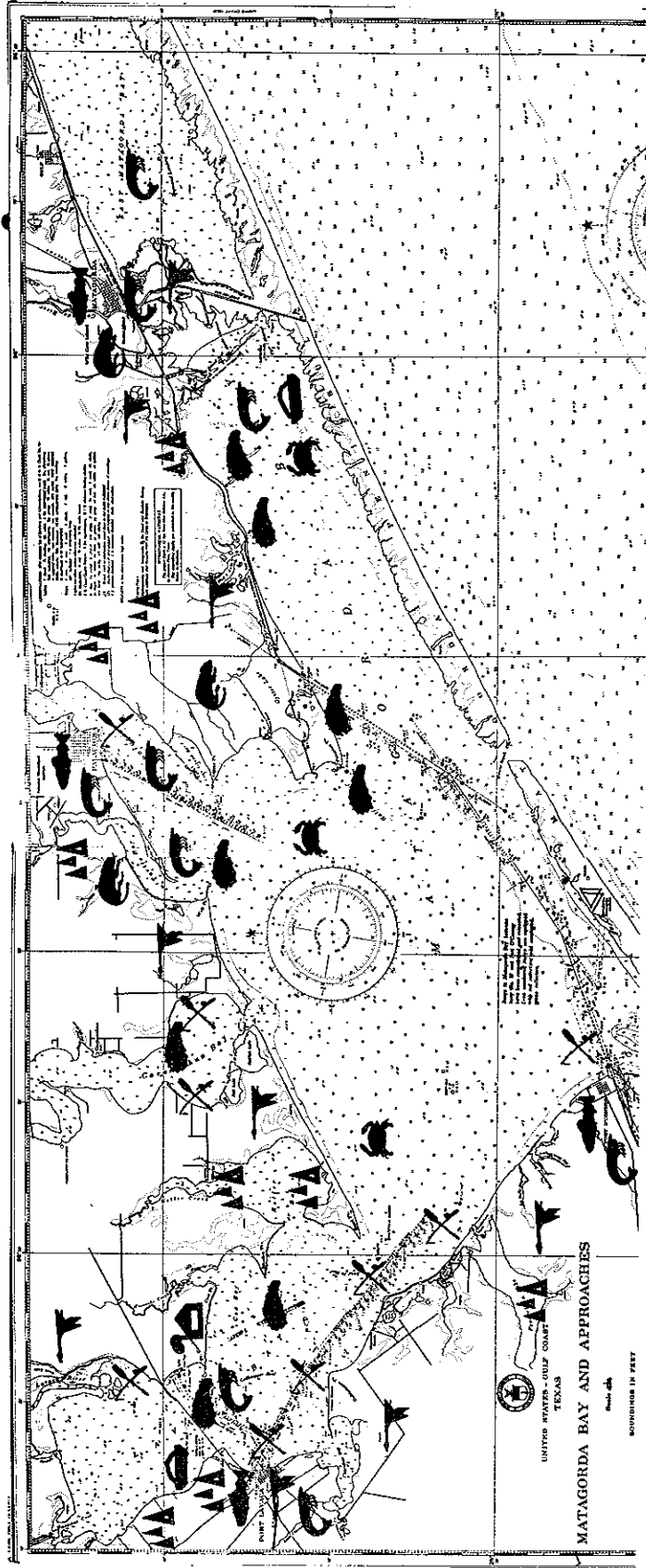
SABINE LAKE



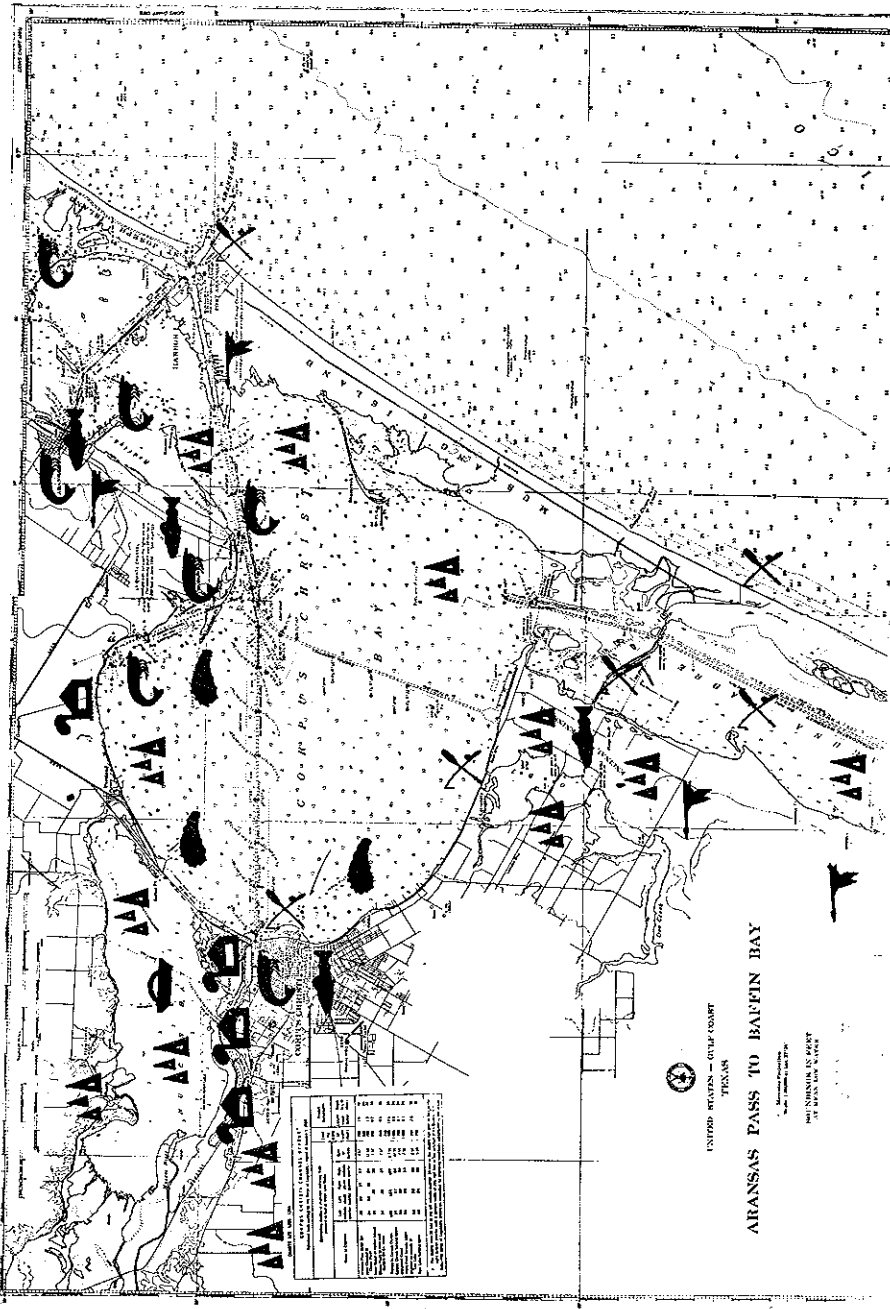
EAST BAY TO CLAM LAKE



GALVESTON AND WEST BAYS



MATAGORDA AND LAVACA BAYS



CORPUS CHRISTI BAY

LOWER LAGUNA MADRE

