AN ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION STUDY OF THE CHENIER PLAIN COASTAL ECOSYSTEM OF LOUISIANA AND TEXAS was prepared for the National Coastal Ecosystems Team, Office of Biological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. James G. Gosselink, Louisiana State University, was principal investigator. Funding was provided by the Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Copies of Volume I (Narrative Report) FWS/OBS-78/9, Volume II (Data Source Appendix) FWS/OBS-78/10, and Volume III (Atlas) FWS/OBS-78/11, may be obtained from:

National Coastal Ecosystems Team U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service NASA-Slidell Computer Complex 1010 Gause Blvd.
Slidell, LA 70458

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The Biological Services Program was established within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to supply scientific information and methodologies on key environmental issues that impact fish and wildlife resources and their supporting ecosystems. The mission of the program is as follows:

- To strengthen the Fish and Wildlife Service in its role as a primary source of information on national fish and wildlife resources, particularly in respect to environmental impact assessment.
- To gather, analyze, and present information that will aid decisionmakers in the identification and resolution of problems associated with major changes in land and water use.
- To provide better ecological information and evaluation for Department of the Interior development programs, such as those relating to energy development

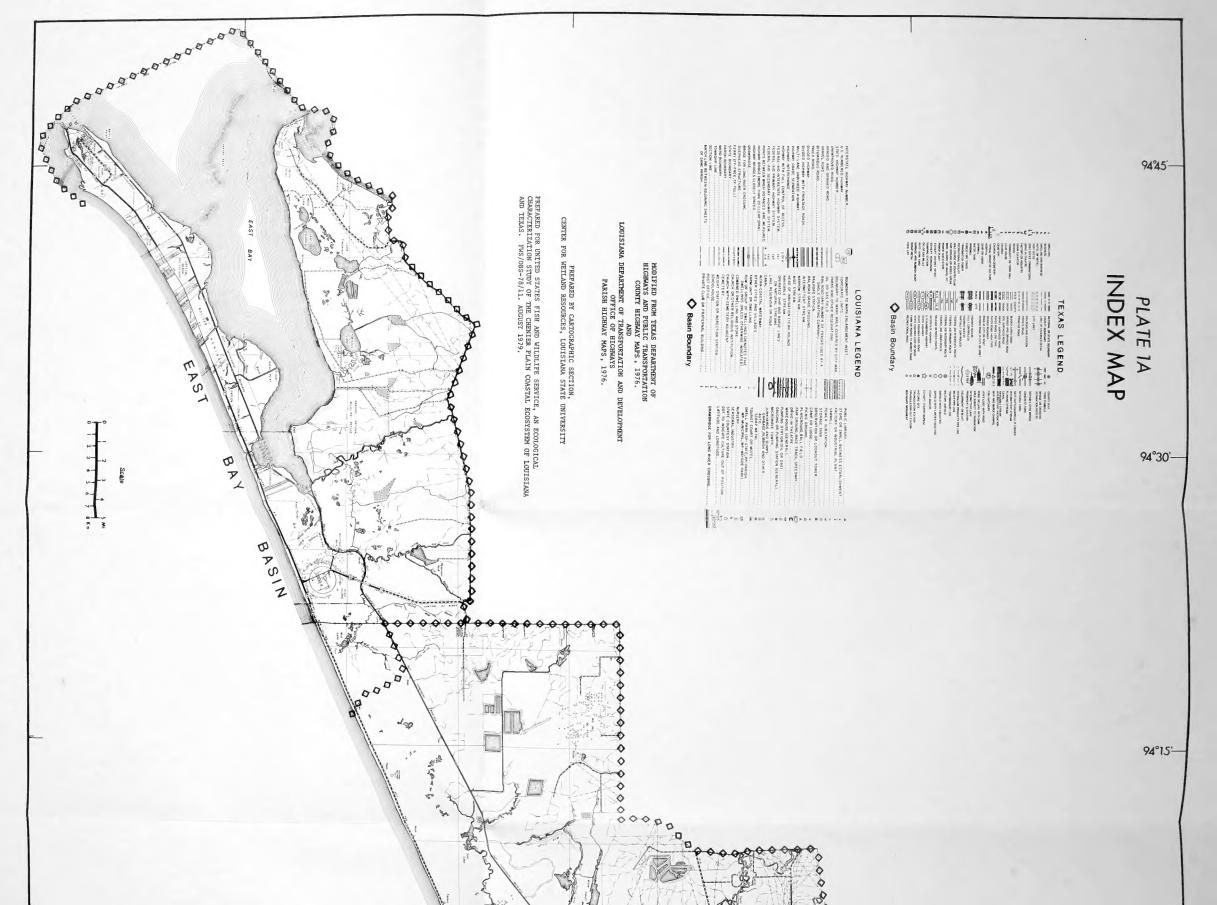
Information developed by the Biological Services Program is intended for use in the planning and decisionmaking process to prevent or minimize the impact of development on fish and wildlife. Research activities and technical assistance services are based on analysis of the issues, a determination of the decisionmakers involved and their information needs, and an evaluation of the state of the art to identify information gaps and determine priorities. This is a strategy that will ensure that the products produced are disseminated are timely and useful.

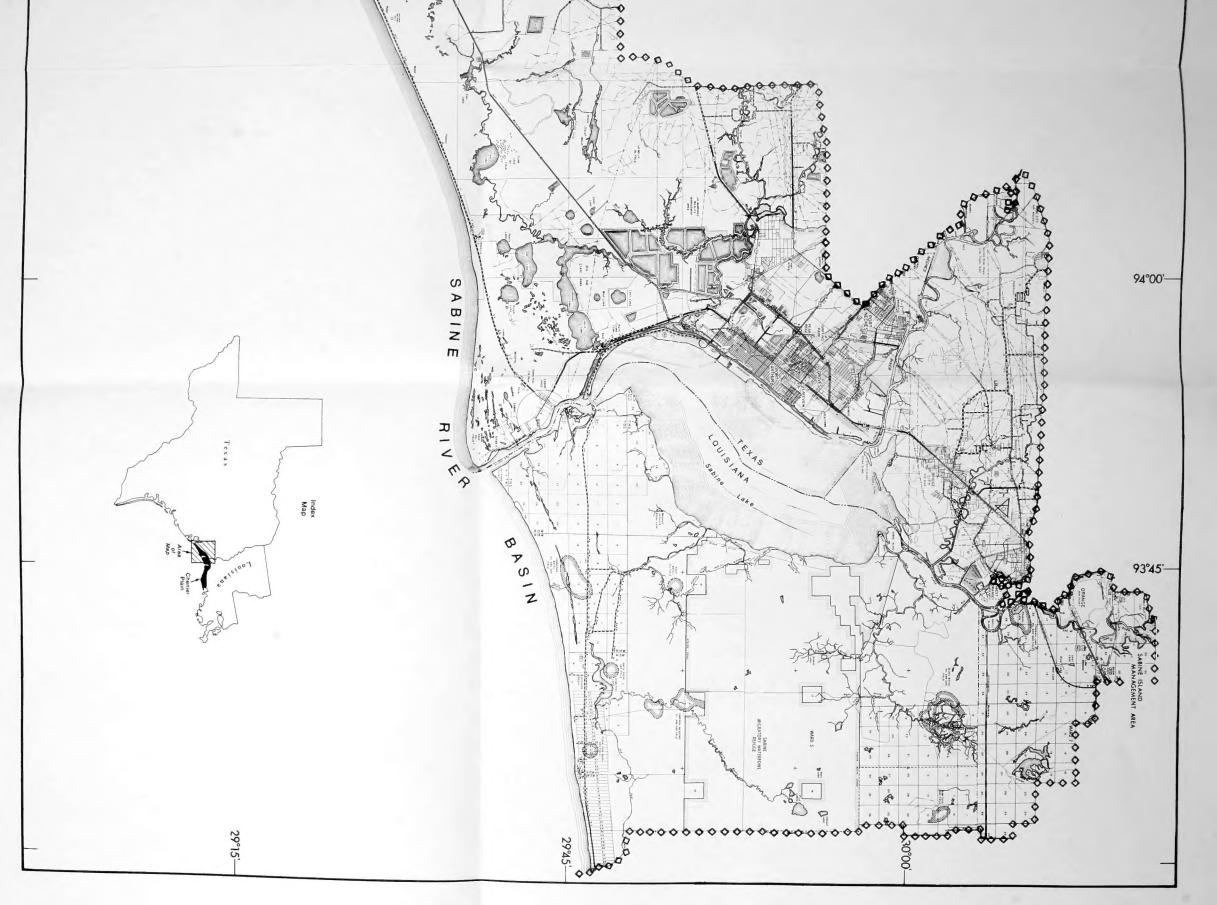
Projects have been initiated in the following areas: coal extraction and conversion; power plants, geothermal, mineral, and oil-shale development; water resource analysis, including stream alterations and western water allocation; coastal ecosystems and Outer Continental Shelf development; and systems inventory, including National Wetland Inventory, habitat classification and analysis, and information transfer.

The Biological Services Program consists of the Office of Biological Services in Washington, D.C., which is responsible for overall planning and management; National Teams, which provide the Program's central scientific and technical expertise and arrange for contracting biological services studies with states, universities, consulting firms, and others; Regional Staff, who provide a link to problems at the operating level; and staff at certain Fish and Wildlife Service research facilities, who conduct in-house research studies.

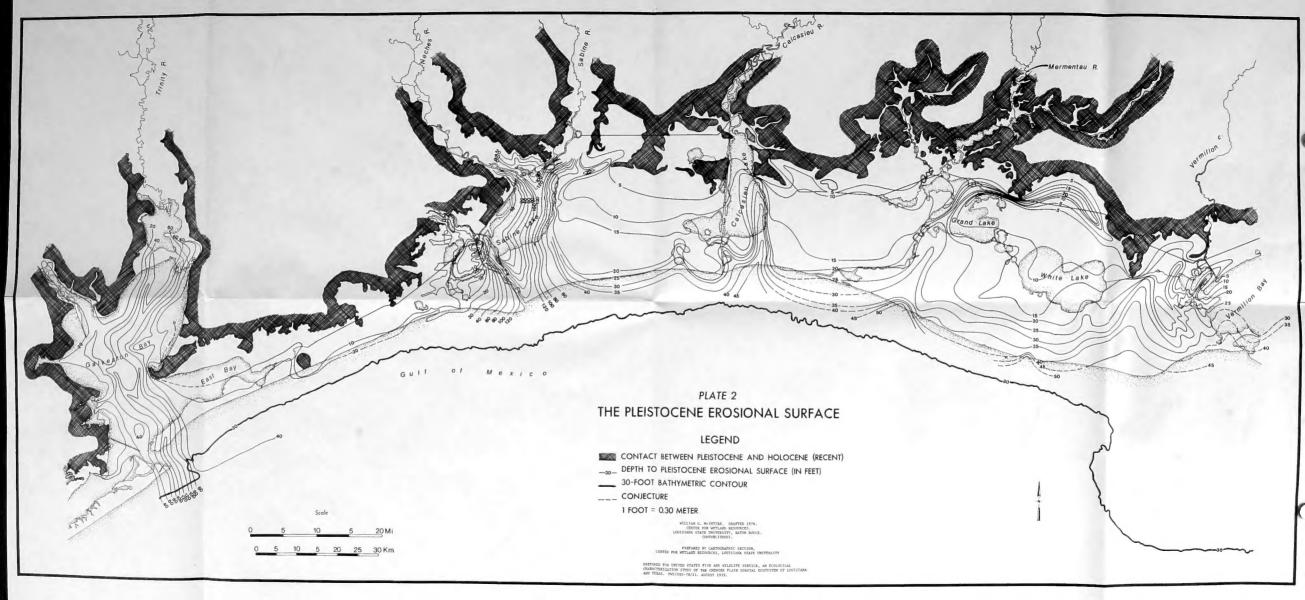




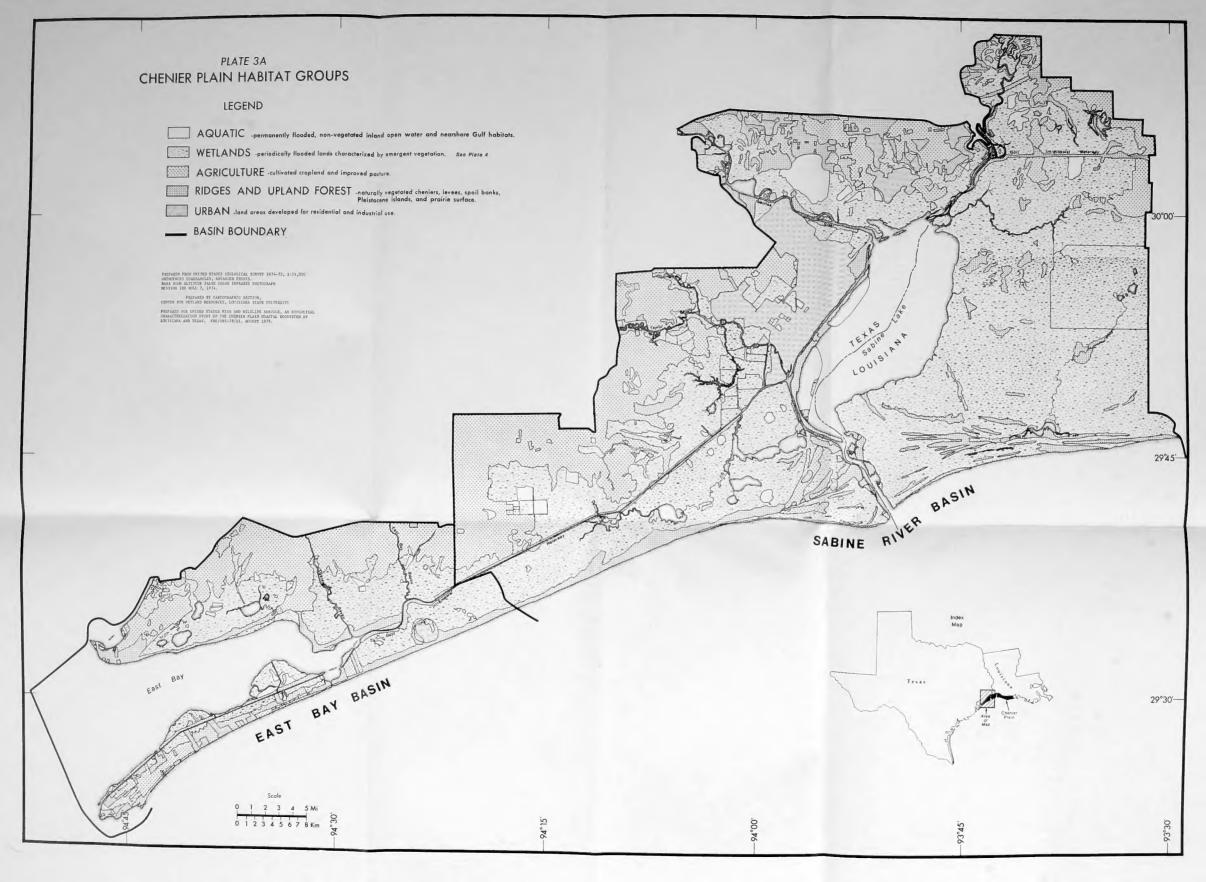




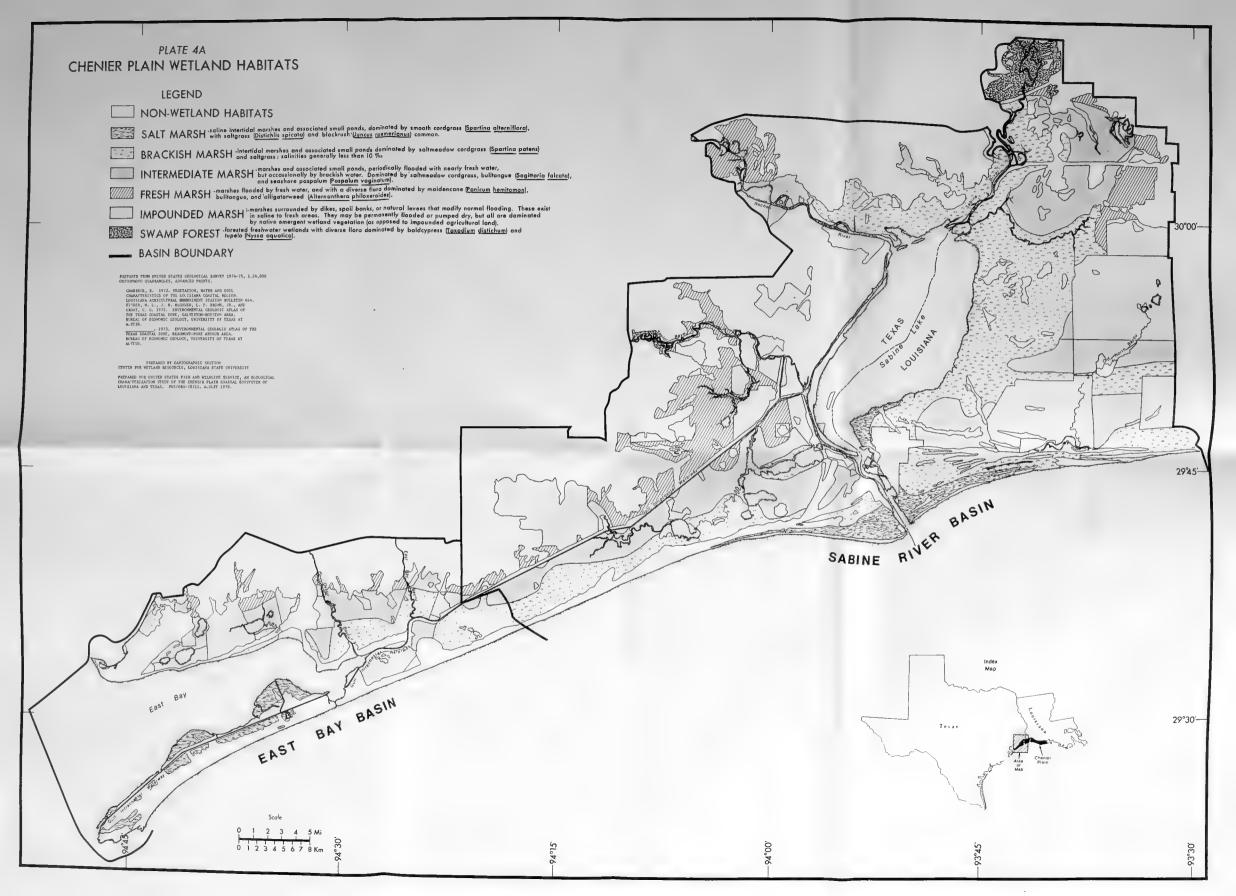




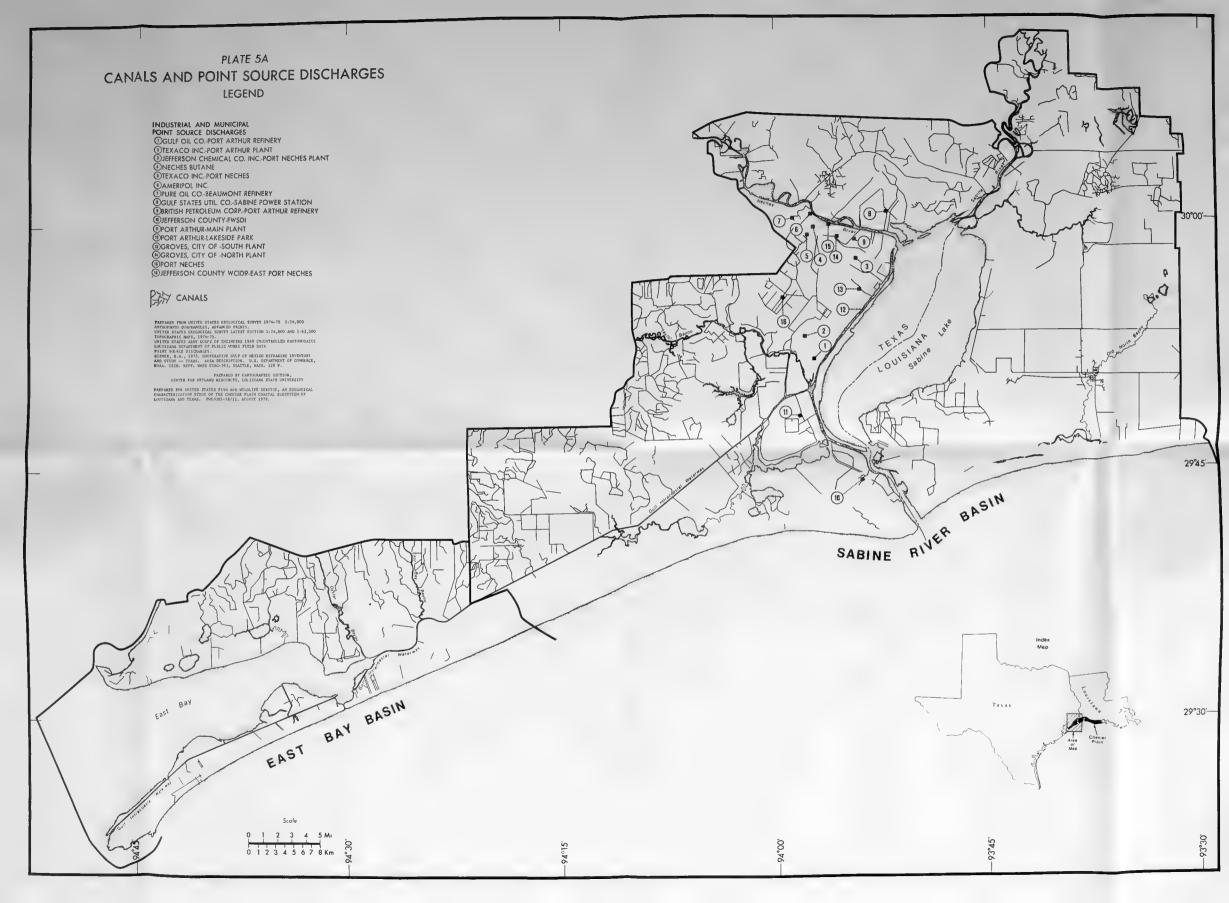




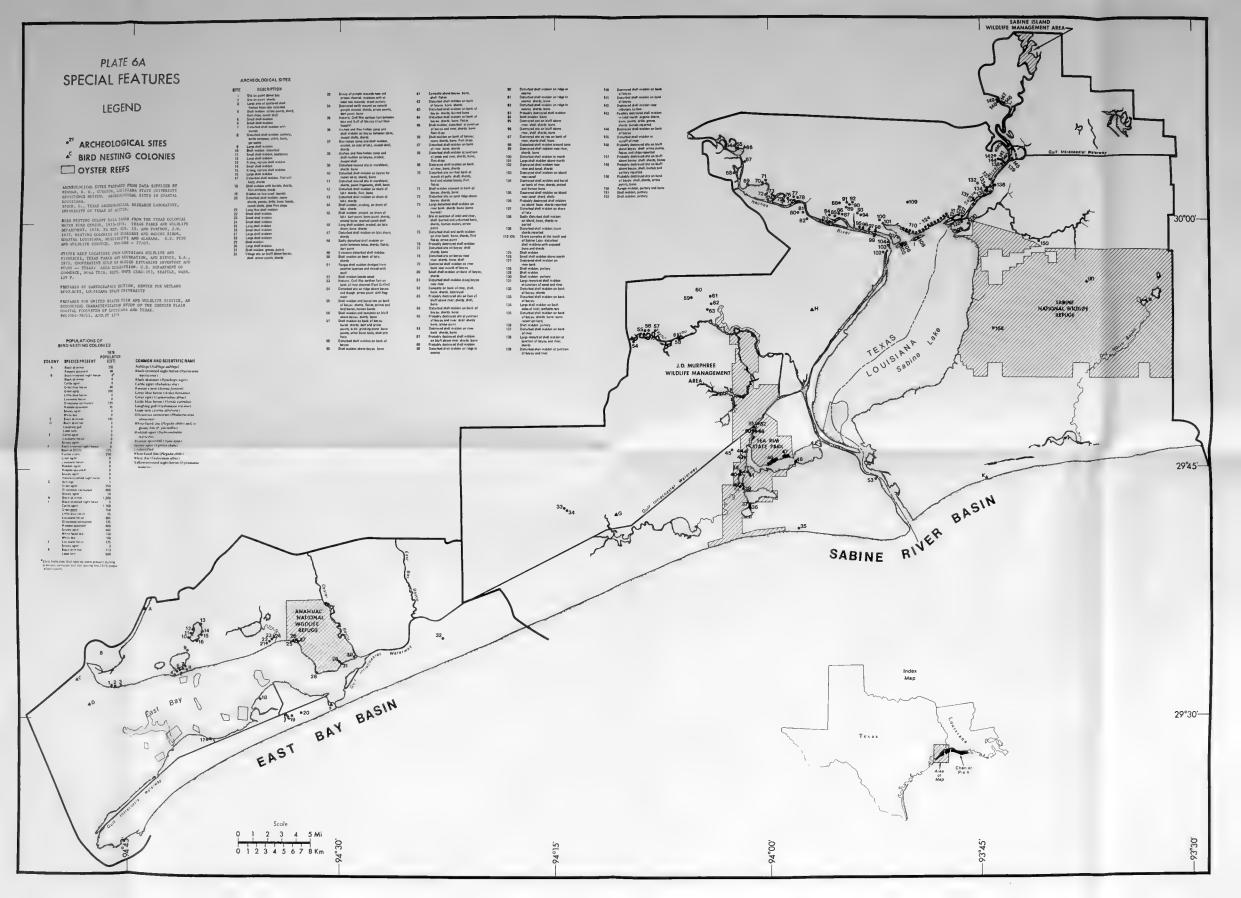




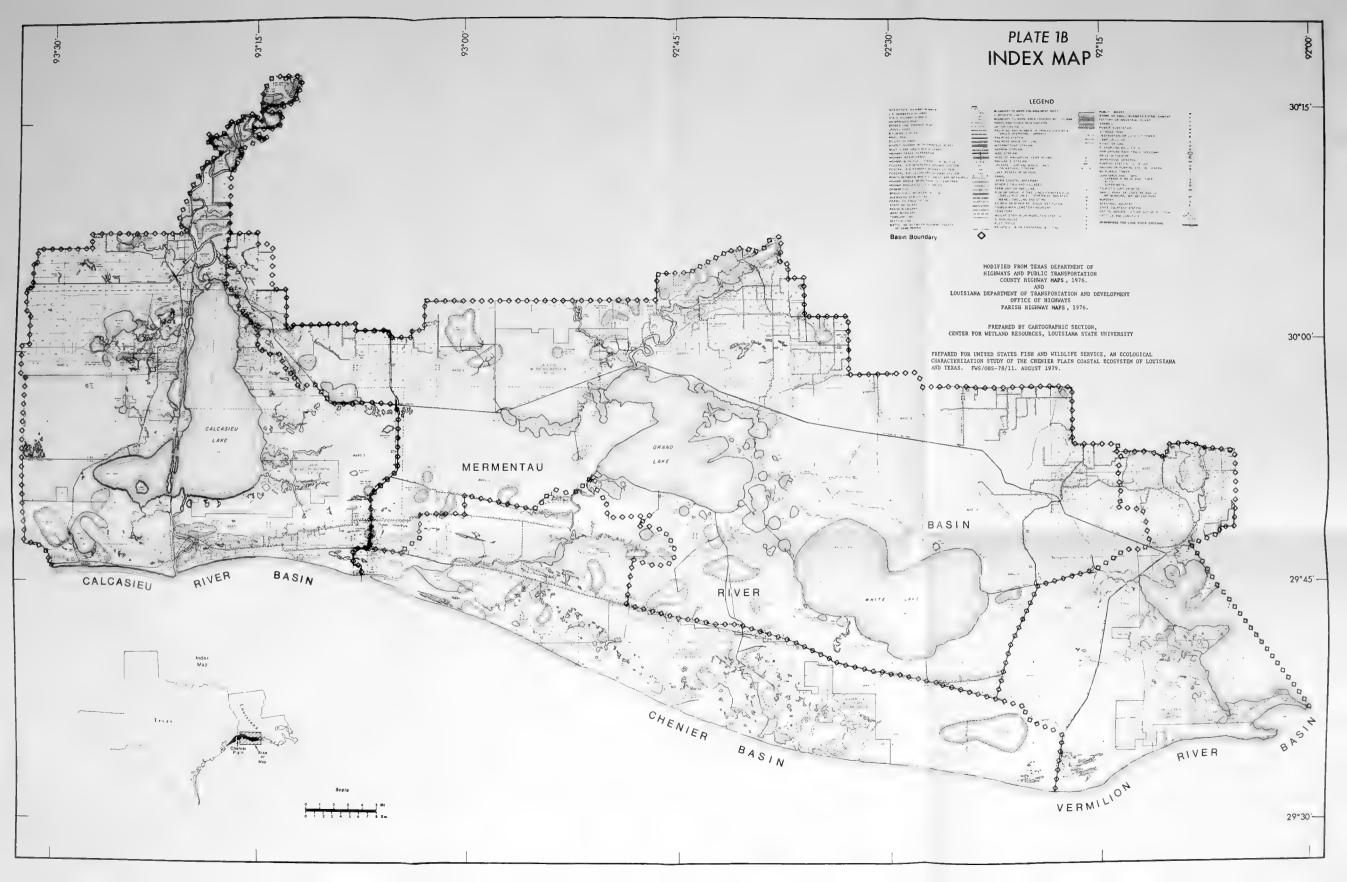




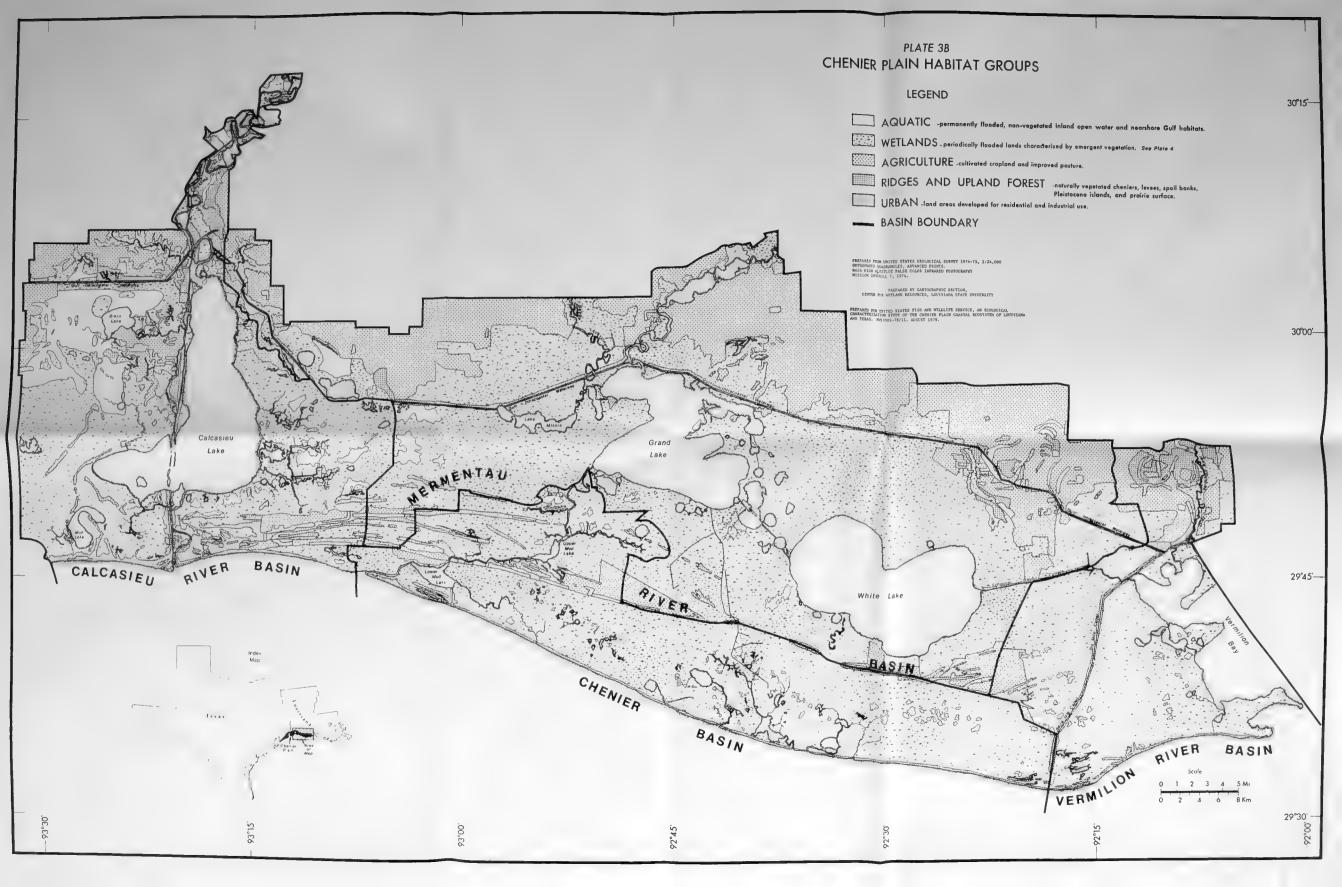




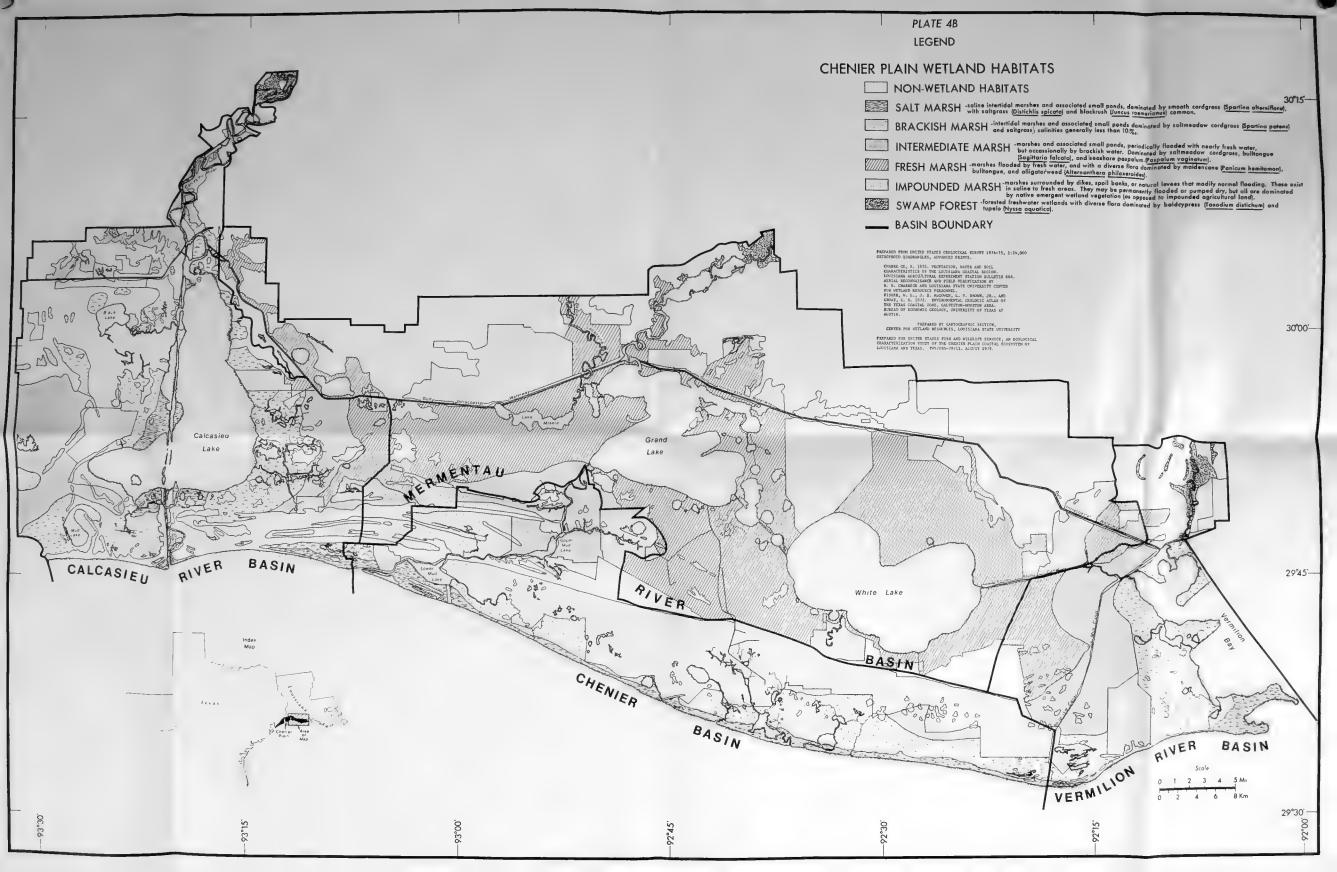


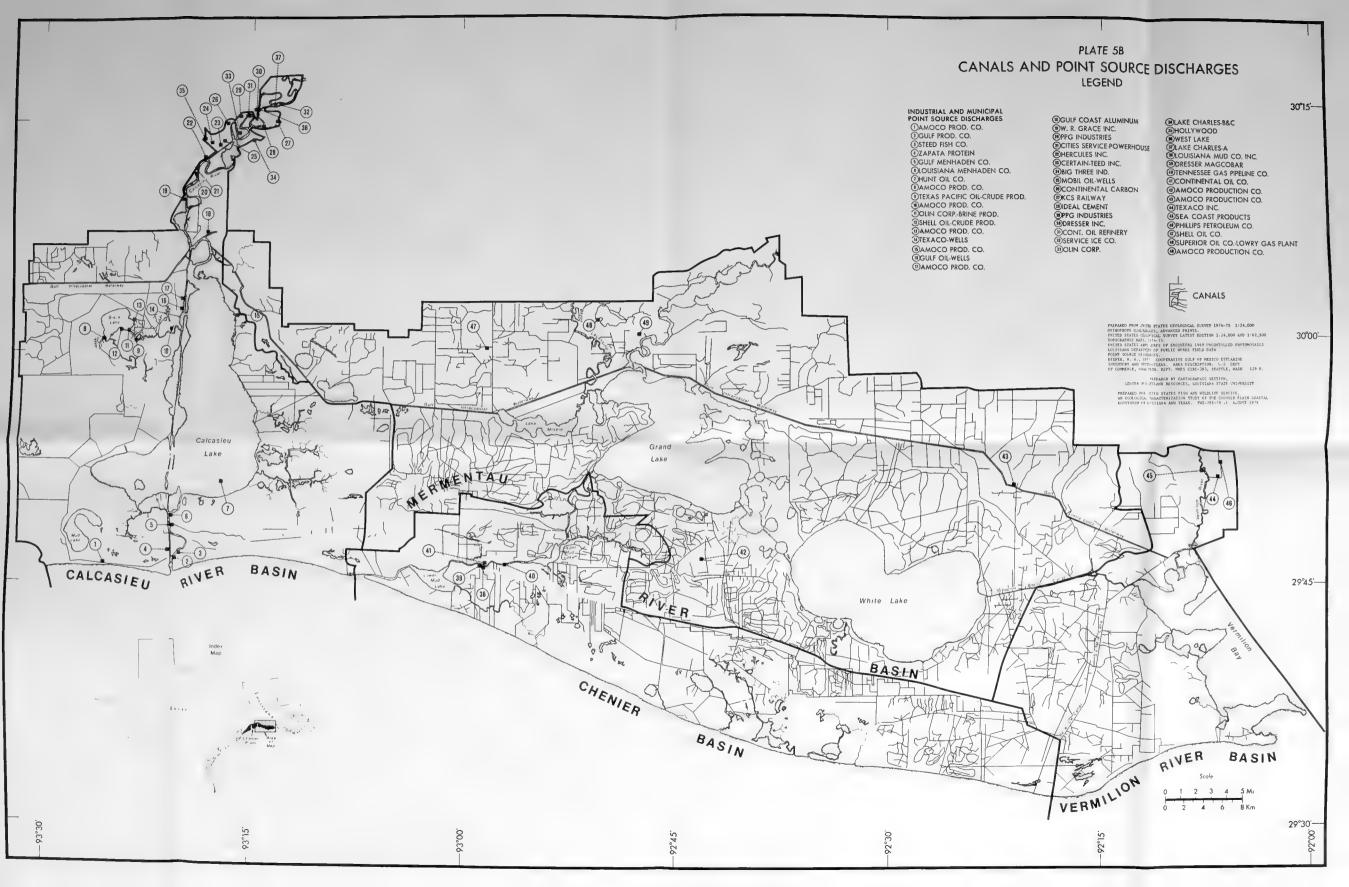


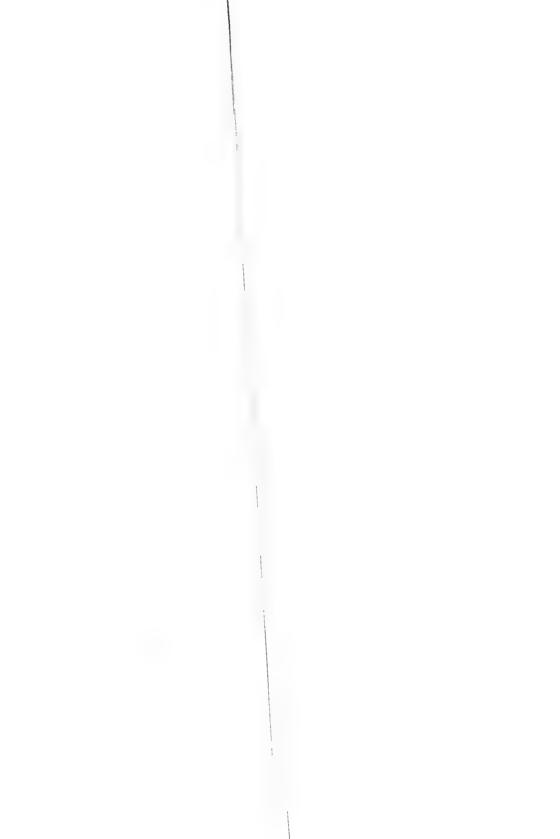


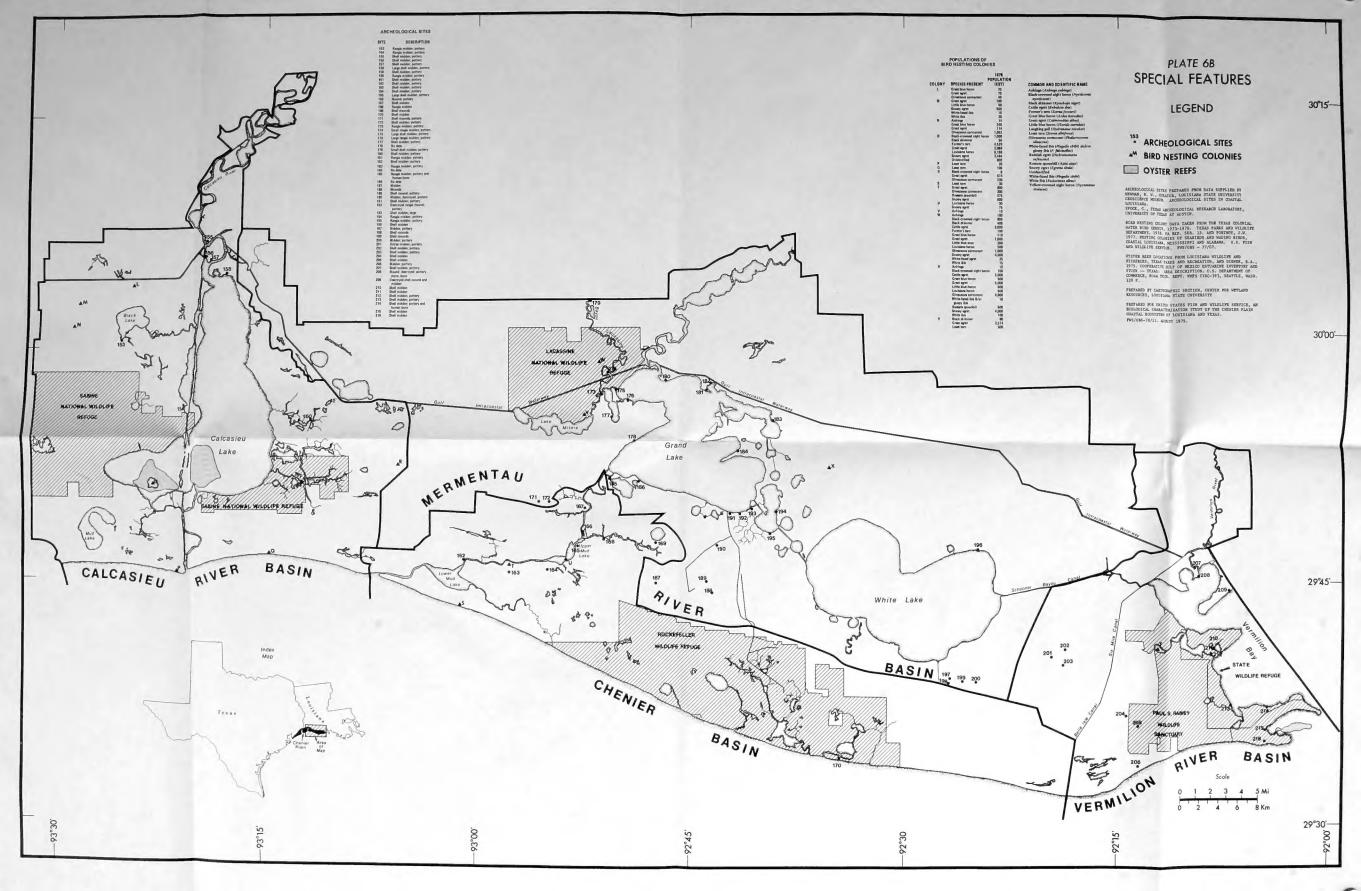














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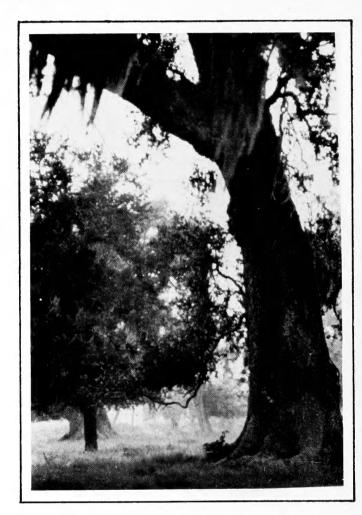
Biological Services Program

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FWS/0BS-78/11 August 1979

An Ecological Characterization Study of the Chenier Plain Coastal Ecosystem of Louisiana and Texas

VOLUME III ATLAS



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