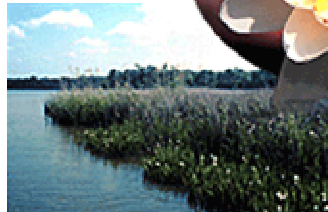
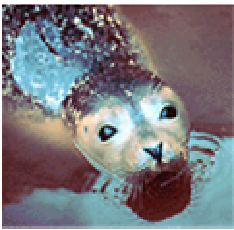


Local NERRS Project

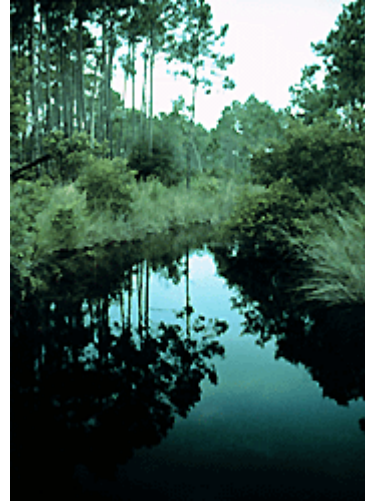
Station #7

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System

is a network of protected areas established for long-term research, education and stewardship. This partnership program between NOAA and the coastal states protects more than one million acres of estuarine land and water, which provides essential habitat for wildlife; offers educational opportunities for students, teachers and the public; and serves as living laboratories for scientists.



Estuaries: Where Rivers Meet the Sea



Estuaries are commercially important natural resources. Learn more about them by visiting

www.estuaries.gov.

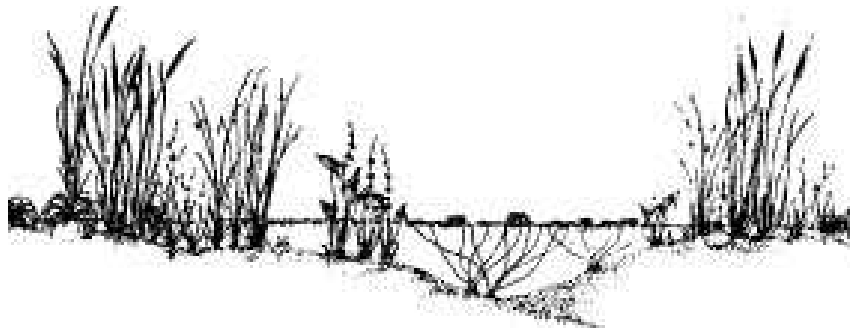
Local NERRS Project

Station #7

Directions:

Use the posters and photographs from this station to answer the following:

- 1) What is NERRS?
- 2) Name 4 of 7 partners of the Mission-Aransas Estuary project.
- 3) Name 4 bays connected with this reserve.
- 4) What does NOAA stand for?
- 5) What can a project like this offer the neighboring community?
- 6) How many acres does this project cover?
- 7) Of the habitats, which one covers the greatest area?
- 8) What percentage of land use in Aransas County is *cultivated* AND *developed* lands?



Purpose: To become more familiar with a local wetland project and its participants.

Local NERRS Project

Station #7

Answer Key

- 1) National Estuarine Research Reserve System
- 2) NOAA, Texas Parks and Wildlife, General Land Office (state), Coastal Bend Land Trust, Fennessey Ranch, United States Fish and Wildlife, University of Texas Marine Science Institute.
- 3) National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
- 4) Copano Bay, Redfish Bay, Aransas Bay, St. Charles Bay, Mesquite Bay, Mission Bay and Port Bay
- 5) Varies
- 6) 236, 641 acres (**Read:** *two hundred thirty-six thousand, six hundred forty-one acres*)
- 7) Water (bay bottom and oyster reef)
- 8) $9.4 + 13.6 = 23\%$ (**Read:** *nine and four tenths plus thirteen and six tenths equals twenty-three percent.*)