

1.13.5 Texas Bayou

Texas Bayou begins in southeast Jefferson County and flows eastward about four miles before emptying into Sabine Pass and ultimately the Gulf of Mexico. The bayou meanders through banks lined with extensive cordgrass (*Spartina* sp.). The bayou is entirely contained within the Texas Point National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), which encompasses almost 9,000 acres of estuarine-tidal saltmarsh with some wooded uplands and prairie ridges (Moulton and Jacob 2000, USFWS 2004b). The refuge provides habitat for wintering and migrating waterfowl, alligators and coastal marsh animals, and also functions as a nursery area for commercially and recreationally important finfish and shellfish (USFWS 2004b). The ecologically significant stream segment is from the confluence with the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) upstream to its headwaters in Jefferson County.

- **Riparian conservation area-** fringed by the 8,900-acre Texas Point NWR.



Figure 58. Texas Bayou within Texas Point National NWR, Jefferson County. Source: Texas Point and Sabine Pass DOQs, 1995.