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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 16, 2009

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Adopt-A-Beach Winter Texan Beach Clean up Feb. 20

Patterson calling on Winter Texans to volunteer

AUSTIN — The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Winter Texan Beach Clean up will be Friday, Feb. 20 at Edwin Atwood Park, announced Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office. The cleanup begins with volunteer registration at 8:30 a.m. and lasts until noon.

"Winter Texans have a special love for the Texas coast and always do more than their share to help keep it pristine," said Patterson. "Anyone who loves Texas enough to help keep it beautiful is a full-time Texan in my heart."

The Winter Texan Beach Cleanup is one of three all-volunteer seasonal cleanups coordinated through the Adopt-A-Beach Program of the Texas General Land Office. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The beach cleanups will be from 11:30 a.m. The day will end with a "What Did You Find?" session and refreshments.

Each year, Texas' beaches receive large amounts of marine debris due to a convergence of currents in the Gulf of Mexico. Since 1986, more than 374,000 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 7,100 tons of this debris, some of it originating as far away as Greece. Volunteers record data on the trash to learn more about the causes of marine debris and to help mitigate pollution along Texas' 367 miles of coastline.

The Texas General Land Office's Adopt-A-Beach Program is funded primarily by private contributions. To help out, or for more information, call the General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST or visit our Web site at http://www.texasadoptabeach.org.

Who: Winter Texans

What: GLO Adopt-A-Beach Program Winter Texan Beach Cleanup

When: Friday, Feb. 20, 2009

8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. – registration 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – cleanup

11:30 to noon – What Did You Find?

Where: Edwin Atwood Park, Access 5, Highway 100

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