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TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE Jerry Patterson, Commissioner

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 8, 2009 Contact: Jim Suydam (512) 463-5339 (512) 417-5382 cell

Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup set for April 25 3 cleanup sites in the Victoria area

AUSTIN — The 23rd annual Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup will take place Saturday, April 25th at three sites in the Victoria area.

"Join us for a great time and a good cause, keeping Texas beaches beautiful," said Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office.

Volunteers can register at all three check-in sites beginning at 8:30 a.m. on April 25th. Each volunteer will be given data cards, gloves, pencils and trash bags. All volunteers are advised to wear closed-toe shoes and bring sunscreen and plenty of drinking water.

Texans who are not able to attend the cleanup can help keep their beaches clean by making a taxdeductible donation online at <u>www.texasadoptabeach.org</u>. There are several different Adopt-A-Beach sponsorship levels ranging from \$25 to \$25,000, allowing both individuals and corporations to contribute to this major cleanup effort. Statewide coastal cleanups are held every spring and fall.

Texas beaches receive large amounts of marine debris due to a convergence of currents in the Gulf of Mexico. Since 1986, more than 375,000 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 7,100 tons of this debris along the Texas coast. 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.

Local news media sponsors for the cleanup include the following Victoria stations: KAVU-TV (ABC Channel 4), KVCT-TV (FOX Channel 3), KMOL-TV (NBC Channel 6), KXTS-TV (MY 41 Channel 9), KVTX-TV (Telemundo Channel 21) and KUNU-TV (Univision Channel 16); as well as Victoria Radio Works channels KIXS-FM, KQVT-FM, KLUB-FM and KTXN-FM.

The Texas General Land Office's Adopt-A-Beach Program, Bush Clinton Coastal Recovery Fund and the Points of Light Institute have joined forces to bring national attention to the Bolivar Peninsula. Shell Oil Company is the lead cleanup sponsor for 2009. Other statewide sponsors are Maritech Resources, the Newfield Foundation, AkzoNobel Surface Chemistry, LLC, Johnson Controls, Halliburton and Flint Hills Resources Community Action Council. The General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Cleanups are held rain or shine!

For a complete listing of cleanup sites for the upcoming Spring Cleanup, to learn how you can participate, or for additional information on the Adopt-A-Beach Program, please visit <u>www.texasadoptabeach.org</u> or contact the GLO at 1-877-TX COAST.

Who: What: When:	Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office GLO Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup Saturday, April 25, 2009 Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Clean up will be from 9 a.m. to noon
Where:	 Three coastal sites in the Victoria area Magnolia Beach/Indianola—Calhoun County Check-in: Crabbin' Bridge Contact: Sheri McMahan, 713-557-0676 magnoliabeach@texasadoptabeach.org
	 King Fisher Beach, Port O'Connor—Calhoun County Check-in: Pavilion at King Fisher Beach Contact: Debbie Gayle, 361-983-4647 <u>debbie.gayle@texasadoptabeach.org</u>
	 Austwell Pier, Tivoli—Refugio County Check-in: Austwell Pier Contact: Dwight Mutschler, 361-286-3762 <u>austwellredfish@texasadoptabeach.org</u>

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