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Transboundary Resource Inventory Glossary

Charles Vorndran, Student Editorial Board

Who could ever imagine what the Spanish abbreviation CICOPLAFFEST represents? Worse yet, where would you go to find out? The answer to both of these questions can now be found in the *Transboundary Resource Inventory Glossary* recently compiled by the Texas General Land Office. The glossary is primarily for those working on the Transboundary Resource Inventory Project. The Transboundary Resource Inventory Project is an international initiative between Mexico and the United States designed to map and measure the natural resources of the Gulf coast and border region. Despite its narrowly focused audience, the glossary is useful to anyone requiring the Spanish-English/English-Spanish translation of cartographic, environmental or oil spill terms.

The glossary's organization into an English-Spanish index, a Spanish-English glossary, and list of abbreviations for governmental offices and significant laws simplifies finding a particular term whether in Spanish or English. The index has well over 1,160 entries with terms ranging from "anaerobic" to "Y-scale." More importantly, the Spanish-English glossary provides English translations of terms with definitions in Spanish. The inclusion of the definitions in Spanish increases the usefulness of the resource to users who are not fluent in English. Finally, the abbreviation section is beneficial to individuals fluent in either English or Spanish by including the full name of abbreviated governmental offices in both Mexico and the United States.

The *Transboundary Resource Inventory Glossary* is not meant to be an exhaustive compilation of cartographic, environmental or oil spill terms. Between these three categories, a majority of the terms relate to cartography, a very specialized field. Still, the broad range of terms included in the glossary expands its value beyond just cartography aficionados. To obtain a copy call (512) 463-2613 or 1-800-735-2989; or write to the Texas General Land Office, Garry Mauro, Commissioner, Office of Federal Relations, 1700 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701-1495.