



## Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Inc.

1305 N. Shoreline, Suite 205, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 • 361-885-6202 • 361-883-7801 (fax)

---

# Media Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Monika K. De La Garza - CBBEP (361) 885-6246

Cell: (361) 946-6077; monika@cbbep.org

## ***Rededication of Mollie Beattie Park on North Padre Island***

**WHO:** The Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program (CBBEP)  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Texas General Land Office  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Service  
Coastal Conservation Association  
Saltwater-Fisheries Enhancement Association  
Center for Coastal Studies

**WHEN:** Thursday, June 6, 2002  
10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Mollie Beattie Coastal Habitat Community  
North Padre Island (3 miles north of intersection of Park Road 22 and Hwy 361 – see map)

**WHAT:** The ***Mollie Beattie Coastal Habitat Community (MBCHC)*** is 1,600 acres of Upper Laguna Madre shoreline on North Padre Island that supports a diverse and ecologically important coastal habitat. The Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas General Land Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Coastal Conservation Association, Saltwater-Fisheries Enhancement Association, and the Center for Coastal Studies worked together to preserve this nature area. This nutrient-rich community includes rare coastal prairie, marsh, unvegetated wind-tidal flats, shallow water for plants and animals, and submerged seagrass beds. The ***Mollie Beattie Coastal Habitat Community*** supports species including shrimp, crabs, fish, insects, birds, and mammals, just to name a few. One habitat of particular importance is the wind-tidal flats and their role in the overall productivity of the bay system. The MBCHC presents a wonderful educational opportunity for teachers and students to explore and study wind-tidal flats.

The ***Mollie Beattie Coastal Habitat Community*** is named in honor of Mollie Beattie, the first woman director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service nominated by President Bill Clinton in 1993. In 1995, Mollie Beattie met with then Texas Land Commissioner Gary Mauro to explore ways that state land offices can contribute to the recovery of endangered species while allowing economic development to occur. As promised to Mrs. Beattie before her untimely death in 1996, the Texas General Land Office and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding to initiate the Adopt-A-Habitat Program. The ***Mollie Beattie Coastal Habitat Community*** is the first site in the United States to be designated under the Program.

###