The key elements of the Coastal Management Section include:

Item 1: Proposed Development of Coastal Resources
Item 2: Coastal Resource Protection Issues

Current plans for the development of Coastal Areas include: a recreation/boating center at the northern edge of the main campus property near the mouth of Thompson's Bayou, as well as the development of a marine research lab and education center on UWF's Santa Rosa Island Property.

Preservation and protection of marine resources includes development approaches that avoid and minimize destruction/pollution of these areas. Primary issues include the management of stormwater runoff and restriction on development of sensitive and flood prone areas. Previous policy established that all facilities would be developed above the 100-year flood plain. (Refer to Figure 18.1)

There are riverine conditions adjacent to the Escambia River and Thompson's Bayou. These conditions support marsh and swamp forest vegetation located within the floodplains or bottomlands along the River and Bayou.

Points of possible source pollution include uncontrolled stormwater runoff and that which percolates into the ground from wastewater percolation ponds. Stormwater runoff is regulated under Chapter 17-25 of the Florida Administrative Code (FAC) and percolation ponds are regulated under Chapter 17-600 and Chapter 17-610 of the FAC. Permitting through the FDEP is required.

Recreation/Boating Area

The Pensacola Beach property is presently undeveloped and is designated for recreational and research purposes. Facilities associated with waterfront recreational uses, such as restrooms, showers, parking lots, picnic areas, dune crossovers, etc. may be constructed. Utilities required to serve the Pensacola Beach property shall be extended from the west including potable water, sewer, electric, and telephone service.
In addition to recreational facilities, the UWF Marine Biology program plans to develop an on-site research facility for use on the undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as summer research programs for K-12 students from around the country. The research facility shall be developed in close proximity to the developed end of Pensacola Beach, and may include offices, classrooms, lab facilities, and outdoor structures for maintaining live animals and marine life.
Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 1: To maintain the health and viability of coastal resources.

Objective 1.1 To avoid degradation and destruction of coastal resources.

Policy 1.1.1 Maintain existing stormwater and utility services in good condition.

Policy 1.1.2 Upgrading existing stormwater systems that negatively effect the coastal environment and adjacent wetlands.

Policy 1.1.3 All new construction will be in strict compliance with State and Federal guidelines to avoid destruction of coastal resources.

Policy 1.1.4 To continue to build all facilities and roadways above the 100 year flood plan

Policy 1.1.5 Adopt prudent environmental health standards (Refer to Section 19 Environmental Health and Safety).

Flood Zone Revisions

During the time elapsed from release of the present UWF Master Plan in 1995 to the draft UWF Master Plan of 2001, FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps were revised with differing flood zone definitions and identification letters. In the case of the UWF campus, flood zones existing at the time of the 1995 Master Plan included Zones A, AE, A99, AO, B, and C. Flood zones now existing include Zones A, AE, A99, AO and X. Flood Zone A has not changed, remaining as areas of 100-year flooding with no base flood elevations determined. Flood Zone A99 also has not changed, remaining as areas of 100-year flooding to be protected by flood protection under construction, with no base flood elevations determined. Flood Zone AO has not changed, remaining as areas of 100-year flooding with flood depths of 1 to 3 feet and average depths determined. Flood Zone AE changed from A1-A30, as areas of 100-year flooding with base flood elevations determined. Flood Zone X changed from B and C, as areas of 100-year to 500-year flooding with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas of less than 1 square mile, and areas protected by levees from 100-year flooding, or areas determined to be outside the 500-year flood plain. The above define flood zones by FEMA as they exist today at the UWF campus. (Refer to Figure 18.1.)