

NEWS RELEASE

MS Dept. of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi 39530



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**16-10-MMS
March 1, 2016**

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Five students win MDMR awards at Region VI Science Fair

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources on Tuesday presented five Coast students with the MDMR Excellence in Marine Sciences Award as part of the Region VI Science and Engineering Fair.

The MDMR has been giving the award for 20 years, and it was established to encourage local students to develop research projects involving Mississippi's coastal resources.

"We give these awards each year to encourage students to identify environmental issues and find possible solutions," said MDMR Executive Director Jamie Miller. "It's important that young people know they play a part in the conservation and protection of the Coast."

The awards are given in five classes. Class I, kindergarten through third grade; Class II, fourth through sixth grades; Class III, seventh and eighth grades; Class IV, ninth and 10th grades; Class V, 11th and 12th grades.

The winners in the first two classes each receive \$100. The other three winners receive \$200 each in order to enhance their exhibits for the next level of competition.

Winners of this year's Excellence in Marine Sciences Awards are:

Class I – Alden Morris, St. James Catholic Elementary, "The Effect of Wind and Water on Coastal Beach Erosion."

Class II – MacKenzie Valentine, Bayou View Elementary, "Is Plankton in Brickyard Bayou Limited by a Dead Zone in the Summer?"

Class III – Kyle Bond, Stone County Middle, "Underwater Robot."

Class IV – Caroline Wiygul, Ocean Springs High, "The Effect of Various Mississippi Marsh Plants on Ammonia."

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Class V – Skyllar Trosclair, St. Patrick Catholic High, "Salt or NaCl?"

Photo credit: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources



Photo 1: Winners of the Class I and Class II MDMR Excellence in Marine Sciences Awards are, from left, MacKenzie Valentine, Bayou View Elementary, and Alden Morris, St. James Elementary.

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Photo 2: Winners of the Class III, IV and V MDMR Excellence in Marine Sciences Awards are, from left, Skylar Trosclair, St. Patrick High; Caroline Wiygul, Ocean Springs High, and Kyle Bond, Stone County Middle.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at dmr.ms.gov.

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