

Coastal Markers



Volume 6, Issue 1

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Summer 2002

Deer Island becomes Coastal Preserve

The Department of Marine Resources (DMR), Secretary of State Eric Clark and The Trust for Public Land signed papers on May 24, 2002, transferring Deer Island from private ownership to the State of Mississippi. The island, located about one-half mile off the southeast coast of Biloxi, is now part of the DMR's Coastal Preserves Program.

"As one of the crown jewels in the state's 40,000 acre Coastal Preserves system, Deer Island will now remain in the public domain to provide critical habitat, scenic beauty and even adventure for anyone who seeks it," said DMR Deputy Director Dr. Fred Deegen.

The state paid \$15 million for the 400 acres of undeveloped land—about 92 percent of the island. The total purchase price of Deer Island is \$16.8 million, which is funded through four sources: \$10 million in state



Senior Project Manager for The Trust for Public Land Don Morrow (front left), Department of Marine Resources Deputy Director Dr. Fred Deegen (front center) and Mississippi Secretary of State Eric Clark (front right) sign the paperwork to transfer Deer Island from private to public ownership. (Back row: From left, Sen. Deborah Dawkins; Congressman Gene Taylor; Dr. Vernon Asper, chairman, Commission on Marine Resources (CMR); Rep. Jamie Creel; Rep. Diane Peranich; and Rep. Billy Broomfield).

bond money paid off by tidelands lease revenue, \$3.8 million in federal funds, \$2 million from tidelands boundary settlements negotiated by the Secretary of State's Office and \$1 million approved by the Commission on Marine Resources. Plans are in the works to purchase the remaining tracts of land held by private owners.

"Everyone who calls the Mississippi Gulf Coast home should be happy to see this small, but significant parcel of land set aside for posterity," Deegen said. "Its acquisition is an accomplishment of which we can all be proud."

The DMR's Coastal Preserves Program, by authority of the Wetlands Protection Act, was developed in 1992 to acquire, protect and manage sensitive coastal wetland habitats along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, ensuring the ecological health of Mississippi's coastal wetland ecosystems.

The mission of the Coastal Preserves Program is to effectively preserve, conserve, restore and manage Mississippi's coastal wetland ecosystems to perpetuate their natural characteristics, features, ecological integrity, environmental func-

tions, as well as their social, economic and aesthetic values for future benefit.

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An aerial view of Deer Island, located about one-half mile southeast of Biloxi, Miss. Deer Island was transferred from private to public ownership on May 24, 2002, and will now become part of the DMR's Coastal Preserves system.

Coastal Markers is a publication of the



**Mississippi Department
of Marine Resources**

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(June 2002)

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Director's Notes
Dr. Fred Deegen



You've read about it all over the front page of the newspapers and in this newsletter, but the recent purchase has such special significance to me that I feel obliged to mention it again.

As a kid who grew up on Biloxi's Holley Street, I would oftentimes swim or float on an inner-tube raft to Deer Island to spend the day beachcombing and exploring the island's lush interior. I recall many a time when my buddies and I were chased through the palmettos by the island's hermit. More often it was the mosquitoes that would eventually chase us away. Each time, though, the Deer Island experience was a grand adventure that left many vivid and indelible memories.

Now, some 40 years later, I am honored and privileged to have participated in the signing of the documents that officially consummated the acquisition of the island on behalf of all of you.

From the perspective of most folks, the acquisition means 400 more acres of critical wetlands habitat for the state's Coastal Preserves. From my perspective, it also means that other youngsters and adults alike will be able to enjoy the same Deer Island adventure I once did for many years to come.

Deputy Director

**REGISTER NOW FOR THE
21ST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
SUBMERGED LANDS MANAGEMENT
CONFERENCE**

Oct. 14-18, 2002
Isle of Capri Resort
Biloxi, Miss.
Call (228) 374-5022, ext. 5303
or visit the DMR Web site at
www.dmr.state.ms.us

**Boat and Water Safety Course
Schedule (July-Sept. 2002)**

- **July 1-2**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, U.S. 90, Bay St. Louis, 6-9 p.m.
- **July 6**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, 2992 West Beach Blvd., Gulfport, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **July 13**, Bolton Building Auditorium, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **July 15-16**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, Telephone Road, Pascagoula, 6-9 p.m.
- **July 20**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, U.S. 90, Bay St. Louis, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **July 24-25**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, 2992 West Beach Blvd., Gulfport, 6-9 p.m.
- **July 27**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, Telephone Road, Pascagoula, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **July 29-30**, Bolton Building Auditorium, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, 6-9 p.m.
- **Aug. 1-2**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, U.S. 90, Bay St. Louis, 6-9 p.m.
- **Aug. 3**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, Telephone Road, Pascagoula, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Aug. 6-7**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, 2992 West Beach Blvd., Gulfport, 6-9 p.m.
- **Aug. 10**, Bolton Building Auditorium, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Aug. 19-20**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, Telephone Road, Pascagoula, 6-9 p.m.
- **Aug. 24**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, U.S. 90, Bay St. Louis, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Aug. 28-29**, Bolton Building Auditorium, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, 6-9 p.m.
- **Aug. 31**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, 2992 West Beach Blvd., Gulfport, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Sept. 3-4**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, 2992 West Beach Blvd., Gulfport, 6-9 p.m.
- **Sept. 7**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, Telephone Road, Pascagoula, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Sept. 9-10**, Bolton Building Auditorium, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, 6-9 p.m.
- **Sept. 14**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, U.S. 90, Bay St. Louis, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Sept. 21**, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, 2992 West Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

See SCHEDULE, page 4

A very special thanks to the following employees who contributed to this issue of Coastal Markers: Jennifer Buchanan, Leah Bray, Dorothy Daniel, Dale Diaz, Monica Fragello, Scott Gordon, Sharon Hodge, Melanie Lane, Christine Popwell, Ruth Posadas, Amy Taylor and Frank Wescovich.

SHRIMP SEASON OPENING:

Fair skies, calm waters welcome fishermen

Shrimp season, which officially opened in Mississippi territorial waters at 6 a.m. on June 6, 2002, brought with it a 20 percent increase in the number of commercial vessels, likely due to favorable weather conditions. More than a thousand shrimp boats came out to work on opening day.

The Department of Marine Resources' (DMR) marine fisheries staff completed an aerial survey of the shrimp boats on opening day and observed an increase in the number of smaller craft on the waters and an increase in the number of shrimp boats: 1,017 shrimp boats this year compared to 796 shrimp boats last year.

The majority of boats were congregated from Ship Island to the mouth of the Pearl River.

Prior to the season opening, the DMR's Marine Patrol issued more than 20 citations for shrimping during closed season.

The DMR's Marine Patrol was out in full force starting at 6 p.m. June 5 and worked 'round the clock to ensure a smooth shrimp season opening. This included 28 officers, four reserve officers and three dispatchers. Marine Patrol officers conducted pa-



A large shrimp vessel heads in to join the more than 1,000 commercial vessels that turned out for the opening day of shrimp season in Mississippi.

trols from 12 patrol boats throughout the Mississippi Sound.

"We were extremely pleased with opening day commercial shrimping activities," said

Lt. Col. David R. Rose of the DMR's Marine Patrol. "Voluntary compliance rates were much higher than in previous years." **See related story on page 6**

OYSTER SEASON: *Season closes with more than 380,000 sacks harvested*

The 2001-2002 oyster season, which closed on May 11, 2002, turned out to be the second highest oyster harvest since 1990 in the Mississippi Sound. This is a result of several factors. First and foremost of these is a lot of hard work by the people involved in the Mississippi oyster industry, along with a cooperative Mother Nature.

"It takes a special kind of person to brave the elements and overcome all other challenges that confront our hard working commercial fishermen," said Scott Gordon, DMR Shellfish Program Coordinator. "Most consumers probably do not realize just how dangerous of an occupation commercial fishing really is." The U.S. Department of Labor lists commercial fishing as the most dangerous occupation in our country.

For the 2001-2002 oyster season, fishermen made a total of 16,005 trips in the Mis-

issippi Sound to harvest 388,091 sacks of oysters. To put this into perspective, 388,091 sacks of oysters would fill 1,021 18-wheeler trucks with all they could legally haul. Or, for another extreme example, if the individual oysters were placed in a line, end to end, it would stretch over 5,512 miles, more than enough oysters to go from Key West, Florida to Seattle, Washington and back! The majority of these oysters were harvested by Mississippi dredgers, who harvested 261,160 sacks of oysters, or 67 percent of the total harvested.

This season's total marks the seventh consecutive year Mississippi has exceeded 300,000 sacks per season. Barring any major storms or other extreme weather events, the 2002-2003 oyster season should be on track with the last seven years' harvest totals.

Celebrate 100 years of oyster resource management in Mississippi in 2002.

NOTICE

Recreational saltwater sportfishing licenses expire June 30, 2002.

Purchase your new license today!

For a list of vendors selling licenses, call the DMR at (228) 374-5000 or visit us online at www.dmr.state.ms.us.



Workshop focused on ecological restoration

The DMR's Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (GBNERR) and Coastal Preserves Program recently sponsored a three-day Coastal Ecological Restoration Workshop in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Dr. Andy Clewell, a renowned ecologist from Florida who is currently working with TNC to restore the Old Fort Bayou Mitigation Site located near



Dr. Andy Clewell (right) talks about the restoration of the Old Fort Bayou Mitigation Site in Ocean Springs, Miss., at the Coastal Ecological Restoration Workshop, held May 14-16.

Ocean Springs, Miss., conducted the workshop in concert with DMR staff members Jennifer Buchanan and Jeff Clark. Coastal regulators and land managers from Mississippi and Alabama attended the hands-on workshop, which was designed to teach the participants how to develop a draft ecological restoration strategy for coastal Mississippi.

Ecological restoration (ER) is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed. ER is an intentional activity that begins or speeds up the recovery of an ecosystem with respect to its health, integrity and sustainability. An ecosystem is considered restored or recovered when
See RESTORATION, page 6

Sound Advice

Lt. Frank Wescovich



Now that the summer boating season is in full swing, there are a few things that the responsible boater can do to make the workload easier for the people who enforce

the regulations and protect us on the waterways. These are the four principles of Operation BoatSmart:

1. Wearing life jackets saves lives. Despite the fact that life jackets are readily available and relatively inexpensive, life jacket violations continue to top the list of boating violations. It is a mystery why someone would spend a large amount of money for a boat, motor and trailer and fail to provide the most important piece of equipment related to possibly saving his/her life or the life of their passengers.

2. Boater education saves lives. Certification is required in order to operate a motorboat in Mississippi for persons born after June 30, 1980. Classes are held by DMR Boating Safety every Saturday in one of the three coastal counties, and weeknight classes are also scheduled. In addition, there is a home study course available, and classes can be found on the Internet.

3. Safe boats (safely designed, properly outfitted and well-maintained) save lives. Boat design is a major factor of safe boating. You should give a lot of consideration as to how and where the boat will be used before it is purchased. Complete and proper boat equipment outfits will make for a safer and more enjoyable boating experience. A properly maintained boat is not only safer, but also makes your time on the water less frustrating and more enjoyable.

4. Safe and sober boating saves lives. Alcohol and water don't mix. Statistics show that consumption of alcohol is a contributing factor in a large number of fatal boating accidents.

Remember:

SAFE BOATING IS NO ACCIDENT!

Lt. Frank Wescovich oversees the DMR's Boat and Water Safety Program. He can be reached at (228) 432-2820 or (228) 435-1332.

2002 Mississippi Coastal Cleanup

September 21, 2002
8-11 a.m.

To volunteer, call DMR
Public Affairs at
(228) 374-5000

SCHEDULE, continued from page 2

- Sept. 23-24, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, Telephone Road, Pascagoula, 6-9 p.m.
- Sept. 25-26, Mississippi Power Co. Auditorium, U.S. 90, Bay St. Louis, 6-9 p.m.
- Sept. 28, Bolton Building Auditorium, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Call the DMR Boat and Water Safety Bureau at (228) 435-1332 for more details. All classes are free.

Marine Patrol Citation Totals

(March-May 2002)

Shrimp	19
Crab	8
Oyster	27
Commercial Net Fishing	3
Live Bait	2
Miscellaneous Seafood	6
Recreational Fishing	74
Boat and Water Safety	111
Marine Litter	0
Miscellaneous	7

Boat and Water Safety Statistics

(March-May 2002)

Classes held	28
Students certified	313
Outreach events	11
Presentations	13
Boating accidents	4
Fatalities	0

DMR posts signs to deter crab trap theft

The DMR posted signs at about 20 of the most highly used boat launches and marinas in the three coastal counties to make the public more aware of the laws and fines associated with poaching crabs and theft of crab traps.

The Mississippi Blue Crab Task Force, which represents crab fishery interests on the Coast, voted on and approved the signs which state Mississippi law: "It is illegal to take crab traps or crabs from traps not licensed to you (DMR Ordinance 4.007) Punishable by a fine of up to \$500 for the first offense (Section 49-15-63, Mississippi Code of 1972)." Theft of crabs and crab traps is the number one concern of crab fishermen on the Coast.

"Stolen traps often become discarded or derelict and represent a monetary loss to Mississippi's crabbers, who are already feeling the pinch from cheap imported crab meat lowering market prices," said DMR marine fisheries biologist Traci Floyd. "By posting these signs, we hope to discourage crab trap theft and make the public more aware of the consequences of violating the law."



DMR marine fisheries staff members Rudy Balias (left) and Mark Holden (right) post a crab ordinance sign in Biloxi Small Craft Harbor. The DMR posted signs in about 20 locations in the three Coast counties that state Mississippi law: "It is illegal to take crab traps or crabs from traps not licensed to you (DMR Ordinance 4.007) Punishable by a fine of up to \$500 for the first offense (Section 49-15-63, Mississippi Code of 1972)."

DMR adds "Fly Fishing" Category to Saltwater Sportfishing State Records

Get your tippets and tie your flies! The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is now recording saltwater fly-fishing state records.

At the suggestion of the Mississippi Tourism Development Division, the DMR began implementing the new saltwater fly-fishing record category on **May 1, 2002**. The DMR will maintain one additional record for each species of fish, one "All-Tackle" and the other "Fly Fishing."

The application includes an additional rule for fly fishing that states:

- The fish must be legally caught on a rod, reel, and line using conventional fly-fishing tackle;
- The lure used must be a recognized type of artificial fly;
- Treble hooks are prohibited;
- The use of any other type of lure or natural bait, either singularly or attached to the fly is prohibited; and
- The fly used must be submitted with the application.

The Commission on Marine Resources approved the addition of Mississippi Saltwater Fly-fishing Records at its April 16 meeting.

Record Breakers!



Jeffery S. Smith



Reed Guice



Doug Stringer

The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources (CMR) certified three new Mississippi saltwater sportfishing records at its May 21 meeting.

Biloxi angler **Reed Guice** set the first saltwater fly-fishing state record with a speckled trout weighing 15.68-ounces. The fish was caught May 1 while Guice was fly fishing in Biloxi's Back Bay using a "Clouser Minnow" tied by Guice.

Jeffery S. Smith of Biloxi caught a blacktail moray on April 3. The 3-pound, 0.16-ounce fish was caught in about 110 feet of water 50 miles south of Biloxi using cut Blue fish for bait.

Perkinston resident **Doug Stringer** reeled in a Hardhead Catfish on April 11. He caught the 1-pound, 6.08-ounce fish using shrimp for bait. Stringer was fishing at Bayou Caddy in about four feet of water.



Seafood Safety Corner

Summer has arrived and after three months of intensive field and classroom training, the Seafood Technology Bureau staff is in high gear.

We have just finished the recertification of 29 oyster dealers and processors and have

been conducting the first quarterly inspection for the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plans as well as the sanitation inspection program for the fiscal year 2002-2003.

Water sources for seafood processing facilities are being tested during the month of June to meet the semiannual testing requirement. This is to ensure that the quality of water of all permitted processing plants for oysters, crabs, shrimp and other seafood within the state is good. Water sample bottles and the associated analytical media are prepared at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) for the water sampling analysis under the expertise of Dawn Rebarchik.

There are 65 permitted seafood dealers and 52 processors in the state of Mississippi—all in compliance with the sanitation program. These include 24 shrimp processors, 12 crab processors and 29 oyster dealers/processors. Some processors/dealers are holders of multiple dealer permits.

The Seafood Technology Bureau is con-

tinuing its efforts to help our seafood dealers by offering another HACCP and Sanitation Training Course in cooperation with the Mississippi State University Cooperative Extension Program under the Association of

Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Course Certification Program. The training will be scheduled in late September 2002, just before the start of the oyster season. The training is open to all who are interested in attending and is directed toward assisting the new seafood dealers who have new

employees and are developing HACCP plans for their facilities.

The documentation of the post-harvest treatment technologies is under way and literature reviews of available technologies from around the country are being gathered. The staff will be working closely and in cooperation with the oyster industry in an effort to document alternative technologies. A Web site is being developed for this purpose, and it will provide accessibility to the whole oyster industry.



Ruth Posadas

Safety Tip

During processing, clean and wash seafood at around 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Fresh seafood should be chilled immediately after processing, at least within four hours. If you need to freeze seafood to 0 degrees Fahrenheit, do it within 24 hours after processing.

**Celebrate the Gulf,
A Marine Education Festival**
Sept. 28
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Pass Christian Harbor

- Free family fun for everyone!
- Exhibits and hands-on activities for children, highlighting recreational, ecological and commercial aspects of the Gulf.
- Seafood cooking demonstrations
- Junior catch-and-release fishing rodeo.

RESTORATION, continued from page 4

it contains sufficient living and nonliving resources to continue its development without further assistance from the land managers.

Dr. Clewell began the workshop by instructing the participants on the characteristics of a successful restoration project including how to compare the project site to a reference site (a pristine or unspoiled similar site). Workshop participants were then introduced to the Society for Ecological Restoration's newly developed "Primer on Ecological Restoration." This manual provides land managers with standardized steps to follow to successfully restore a variety of habitats.

Each day of the workshop participants were taken to a field site that had been restored or was in the process of being restored. At the Old Fort Bayou site participants observed habitats that were being restored by loggers using horses to remove the excess trees to minimize the damage to the wetlands. At the Dantzler Coastal Preserve, the attendees were given a chance to suggest ways to restore the site based on what they had just learned; and, finally, the participants were toured through the Hancock County Marshes Coastal Preserve site where they observed a recently completed restoration project.

When it was all over, participants left the workshop more informed about restoration techniques and ready to work toward the development of a defensible set of standards for coastal ecological restoration projects.

Working Together



Marine Patrol officers Redd Hester (left) and Glen Wieck (center) board a shrimping vessel during the opening day of shrimp season on June 6. Marine Patrol officers boarded 59 vessels and issued 17 citations on opening day. Marine Patrol reported a high voluntary compliance rate among shrimpers.



Take a Bow

Recognizing employees' commitment to excellence

Lane attends trip ticket software training



Melanie Lane

Marine Fisheries employee, Melanie Lane, recently completed Cardiff TELEform 201 Training, which was held in April in San Diego, Calif. The training focused on how to install, upgrade and add new users to the TELEform Multi-user System.

Cardiff TELEform is an image software that the DMR is using to capture images from the trip tickets that are being used for its commercial fisheries landings. The DMR is in the process of converting its software to an enterprise multi-user version, which will allow additional personnel to assist in this process. Lane also attended a seminar held on May 9 in Tallahassee, Fla. which discussed new methods being used in government. The DMR is always looking at new ways to improve and is considering providing automated forms via the Internet in the future.

DMR Seafood Technology Bureau staff completes HACCP and sanitation training

DMR Seafood Technology staff members Clay Boulet, Jeff Davis, Joe Jewell, Ron Jordan, Ruth Posadas and Jan Welker attended the HACCP and sanitation training course, held April 4-5, in Biloxi.

Jeff Davis and Jan Welker completed the National Seafood HACCP Alliance for Training and Education "Basic Seafood Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point" and "Basic Sanitation Control Procedures" courses, held May 8-10 in Baton Rouge, La.

Seafood Technology Bureau director Ruth Posadas attended the Food Bio-Security Symposium Workshop, held March 27, in New Orleans.

Personnel board awards Daniel with CSM

The Mississippi State Personnel Board (SPB) awarded DMR Human Resources director Dorothy Daniel with the Certificate in Supervisory Management (CSM).

Daniel completed the first three levels of the Mississippi Certified Public Manager program (CPM), which includes 30 hours of professional development training, one required reading/abstract and a job-related project. Daniel's project was "Proposed DMR Classification and Compensation Plan," the major components of which have been approved by the SPB and implemented at the DMR.

The CPM program recognizes participants who have mastered the fundamentals of management concepts and prepares them for the complex and demanding governmental issues confronting Mississippi. A participant must complete six levels to receive the Certified Public Manager Designation. There are currently 11 DMR employees enrolled in the CPM program.

Helping students succeed



DMR employees (From left: Derek Frank, Joan Murphy, Gwynn Taylor, Beth Roberts, Tina Johnson, Sharon Hodge and Karen Carron. Not pictured: Barbara Synowicz, Pat Daughdrill and Kara Vesa) served as mentors in the Help One Student to Succeed (HOSTS) program at Gorenflo Elementary School in Biloxi. Each mentor participated one day per week to help students with their reading. The program is coordinated by Gorenflo Elementary School teacher Barbara Hall.

Happy Anniversary!

These anniversaries mark employees' years of service with the Department of Marine Resources and the state of Mississippi.

(7/1/80) George Wright	(8/13/01) Joan Murphy
(7/1/85) Scott Gordon	(8/15/01) Richard Cooley
(7/1/87) Joey Moran	(8/20/01) Christine Popwell
(7/31/90) Dorothy Daniel	(9/1/98) Kenny Melvin
(7/1/91) David Rose	(9/1/98) Lori Lewis
(7/1/91) Frank Wescovich	(9/1/99) Robert Hilbun
(7/7/92) Charlie Vyles	(9/15/99) Erick Porche
(7/1/93) Linda McCarthy	(9/15/99) Al Warburton
(7/25/96) Corky Perret	(9/15/99) Joe Roach
(7/21/97) Joe Ziegler	(9/1/00) Alan McArthur
(7/1/97) John Grimsley	(9/1/00) Tiffany Toft
(7/1/99) Leah Bray	(9/1/00) Don Baxter
(7/15/99) Michaela Hill	(9/1/00) Allison Felsher
(7/15/99) Brady Trahan	(9/1/00) Tina Shumate
(8/1/86) Mike Buchanan	(9/2/00) Matt Hill
(8/25/86) Judy Bosarge	(9/18/00) Jerry Brashier
(8/25/97) Marty Jones	(9/18/00) Stan Weidman
(8/1/99) Susan Perkins	(9/1/01) Linda Bullard
(8/1/00) Daryl Jones	(9/10/01) Gwynn Taylor
(8/1/01) JR Harrington	(9/20/01) Marti Schuman

We thank them for their dedicated service to the management of our marine resources.

Managing your marine resources today...for a sound tomorrow.



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of Marine Resources**
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DMR Calendar

July 16

Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources meeting, Bolton Building, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, 9 a.m.

August 8

Comprehensive Resource Management Plan Meeting, Bolton Building, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, 10 a.m.

August 20

Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources meeting, Bolton Building, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, 9 a.m.

September 17

Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources meeting, Bolton Building, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, 9 a.m.

September 21

Mississippi Coastal Cleanup, 8-11 a.m. Call DMR Public Affairs at (228) 374-5000 for details.

September 28

Celebrate the Gulf, A Marine Education Festival, Pass Christian Harbor, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Doc's Fishing Tips

Fred Deegen, Ph.D., Deputy Director

If you are drift fishing for trout with live bait, don't just drag it through the water. Instead, cast across the current and let the bait drift naturally. The trout will usually grab the shrimp before the slack is taken out of your line.

If you did not receive this issue of Coastal Markers in the mail and would like to be placed on the mailing list, please fill out below and mail to: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Office of Public Affairs, 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi, MS 39530; call (228) 374-5022, ext. 5062; or e-mail susan.perkins@dmr.state.ms.us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____