## NEWS RELEASE

MS Dept. of Marine Resources 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi 39530 ENHANCE \* PROTECT \* CONSERVE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MDMR closes five oyster areas

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources will close five oyster areas at 4 p.m. Friday, March 11, agency officials said Friday.

The following conditionally approved areas will close:

**Area II "A" –** This area includes northern portions of the Pass Christian and Henderson Point reefs and Hornets Reef.

Area II "B" - This area includes the Waveland and St. Stanislaus reefs.

**Area II "D"** – This area includes the public reefs in St. Louis Bay between the U.S. 90 bridge and the CSX railroad bridge.

**Area II "E" –** This area includes Square Handkerchief Reef and southern portions of Henderson Point reef.

**Area II "F" –** This area includes southern portions of the Pass Christian Reef.

These areas are closing because of the excessive rainfall and the rise of the Pearl River. These areas will reopen when water samples meet MDMR's management plan criteria.

For more information, call the Oyster Hotline at 228-374-5167 or 1-800-385-5902.

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.