

NEWS RELEASE

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**16-46-MMS
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ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Marine Patrol officers rescue dog from Biloxi Back Bay

BILOXI, Miss. – Two Marine Patrol officers with the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources rescued a young dog Friday afternoon when the dog jumped from a car window after an accident on the Interstate 110 bridge.

The dog, a black Doberman-Pit Bull mix, was rescued after falling about six stories to the water.

Officers Michael Fitts and Matt Kasovich picked up the dog from the water about 10 minutes after the accident.

"We were ready to launch the jet skis to go on patrol when we got the call," Kasovich said. "That's how we were able to get to the dog so quickly. We just happened to be in the right place at the right time."

Fitts is a cadet who began field work at MDMR two weeks ago.

"I pulled up, and the dog came right to me," he said. "I pulled him up and put him on the runner of the jet ski. He stayed right there. He was shaken up and a little scared, but he was OK."

Biloxi Police responded to the accident, which happened shortly after noon Friday. Police said a 2000 Nissan Altima was traveling southbound in the left hand lane and lost control, hitting the retaining wall twice.

As police made their way on foot through the traffic to get to the car, they saw the dog jump from the backseat window and over the retaining wall of the bridge.

Biloxi Police called MDMR for assistance, and Marine Patrol rescued the dog. Animal Control returned the dog to its owner.

"We were happy to assist in this rescue and grateful that the person in the car and the dog were not injured." Marine Patrol Chief Keith Davis said.

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(Photos courtesy MS Department of Marine Resources)



Cadet Michael Fitts



Master Sgt. Matt Kasovich

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Cadet Michael Fitts rescued this dog after the dog jumped from a car window following an accident Friday afternoon on the Interstate 110 bridge.

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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