

# NEWS RELEASE

MS Dept. of Marine Resources  
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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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## ***MS Gulf Coast National Heritage Area announces nature tourism plan; reveals new website, logo***

BILOXI, Miss. – Officials with the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area will announce the new nature-based tourism initiative at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at the Biloxi Visitors Center.

They also will reveal the new logo, website and video for the Heritage Area during the event.

Several local, state and federal officials will be on hand for the announcement.

Pres. George W. Bush established the Mississippi Gulf Coast as a National Heritage Area on Dec. 8, 2004. The designated area includes Harrison, Hancock, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone and George counties.

The Department of Marine Resources administers the program, which is part of the National Park Service.

The Heritage Area is a partnership of communities, businesses, government agencies, non-profit organizations and individuals working together to promote this region's cultural and environmental diversity, history, beauty and traditions.

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](http://dmr.ms.gov).

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