



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Holiday Open House at the NERR on Dec. 14

BILOXI, Miss. – The Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) will host a holiday open house on Friday, Dec. 14, 2012 from 2p.m to 5p.m. Come meet our staff and tour our environmentally-friendly building to learn what we do while enjoying refreshments. Stay for the Star Party in which we'll view the Geminids meteor shower and learn how to recognize the many constellations that can be seen in our winter night sky.

For directions to the NERR and more information on events, please visit our website at www.grandbaynerr.org.

The Grand Bay NERR is located in southeast Jackson County at 6005 Bayou Heron Road near Moss Point, Mississippi and includes wetlands and waterways from Bang's Lake to the Alabama state line. A major goal of the NERR is to provide for research coordination and dissemination of scientific data to the community and local decision-makers to provide sound information on which to base management decisions.

The NERR is an 18,000-acre reserve and is home to several rare or endangered plant and animal species and serves as an essential nursery habitat for numerous important commercial and recreational fish species. The Reserve is managed through a state-federal partnership between the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) and its local partners—Mississippi Secretary of State's Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi State University and the Nature Conservancy—and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The MDMR 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 MDMR online at www.dmr.ms.gov.

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Photo: Visit the NERR during the Holiday Open House and stay to view the Geminids meteor shower.

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