



## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

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# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***Capture the Natural World with your Camera at the Grand Bay Reserve's June Adventure Quencher.***

BILOXI, Miss. – On Saturday, June 15, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. join the staff of the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) and grab a camera, phone, tablet, or mobile device to **Capture the Natural World** during **Nature Photography Day**. Sponsored by the North American Nature Photography Assn. (NANPA), this event is held annually “to promote the enjoyment of nature photography, and to explain how images have been used to advance the cause of conservation and protect plants, wildlife, and landscapes locally and worldwide.

The Reserve’s education coordinator will lead you through a variety of picturesque habitats so that you can capture some wonderful photos of unique and colorful species of plants and wildlife, such as birds, butterflies, wild orchids and other colorful subjects. We will review your digital photos before you leave and upload your favorite one to the event’s and the Reserve’s facebook pages for all the world to see!

This is a free, family-friendly event. Be sure to wear clothing appropriate for going into the field and closed-toed shoes that can get wet. For more information, call Jennifer Buchanan at 228-475-7047.

The Grand Bay NERR is located in southeast Jackson County and includes wetlands and waterways from Bang’s Lake to the Alabama state line. A major goal of the Reserve 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 18,000-acre reserve 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 state-federal partnership between the 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 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 MDMR online at [www.dmr.ms.gov](http://www.dmr.ms.gov).



**Photo Caption: Reserve staff member photographing wild orchids.**

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