OYSTER VIOLATION CITATIONS
Total- 0
FY 19 YTD: 0
FY 18 YTD: 2
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0

SHRIMP VIOLATION CITATIONS
Total-0
FY 19 YTD: 0
FY 18 YTD: 1
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0

CRAB VIOLATION CITATIONS
No Recreational Crab License- 2
Untagged Crab Pots- 2
Unmarked Floats- 3
Larceny of Crabs- 1
Commercial Crabbing North of the CSX- 3
Crabbing at Night- 1
Total- 12
FY 19 YTD: 13
FY 18 YTD: 12
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0

LIVE BAIT VIOLATION CITATIONS
Total-0
FY 19 YTD: 0
FY 18 YTD: 0
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0

NET FISHING VIOLATION CITATIONS
Total-0
FY 19 YTD: 0
FY 18 YTD: 0
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0
MISCELLANEOUS COMMERCIAL SEAFOOD VIOLATION CITATIONS
No Commercial Seafood Dealer’s License - 2
No Non-Residential Seafood Dealer’s License - 2
No Commercial Seafood Dealer’s Truck License - 1
Failure to Maintain Proper Records - 1
Total - 6
FY 19 YTD: 28
FY 18 YTD: 12
Courtesy Citations - 1
Verbal Warnings - 0

FISHING VIOLATION CITATIONS
No Saltwater Fishing License - 13
No Non-Resident Saltwater Fishing License - 3
Possession of Undersized Gray Trigger Fish - 1
Possession of Undersized Red Drum - 2
Possession of Undersized Cobia - 1
Possession of Undersized Mangrove Snapper - 1
Possession of Gray Trigger Fish during closed Season - 2
Possession Over the Limit Red Drum - 1
Possession Over the Limit Red Snapper - 1
Possession of Red Snapper without a Landing Permit - 2
Total - 27
FY 19 YTD: 71
FY 18 YTD: 137
Courtesy Citations - 3
Verbal Warnings - 0

BOAT AND WATER SAFETY VIOLATION CITATIONS
Insufficient PFD’s - 2
Child Under 12 Without PFD - 2
No Boater Safety Card - 1
No Navigation Lights - 4
Skiing without an Observer - 1
Wake Zone Violation - 2
Negligent Operation - 3
Negligent Operation Involving Alcohol - 3
BUI - 1
Total - 19
FY 19 YTD: 55
FY 18 YTD: 83
Courtesy Citations - 3
Verbal Warnings - 0
MARINE LITTER VIOLATION CITATIONS
No Trash Container- 1
Total-1
FY 19 YTD: 1
FY 18 YTD: 1
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0

WETLANDS VIOLATION CITATIONS
Total- 0
FY 19 YTD: 2
FY 18 YTD: 0
Courtesy Citations-0
Verbal Warnings-0

MISCELLANEOUS VIOLATION CITATIONS
Minor in Possession of Alcohol- 6
Total- 6
FY 19 YTD: 10
FY 18 YTD: 7
Courtesy Citations-1
Verbal Warnings-0

TOTAL VIOLATIONS CITED: 70
FY 19 YTD: 179
FY 18 YTD: 256

TOTAL COURTESY CITATIONS:
Fishing- 3
Boat and Water Safety- 3
Misc.- 2
Total- 8

TOTAL VERBAL WARNINGS:
Littering- 1
Misc. -1
Total- 2

TOTAL COURTESY CITATIONS/VERBAL WARNINGS:
(2 verbal/ 8 courtesy citations)
Total- 10
FY 19 YTD: 39
FY 18 YTD: 88

TOTAL STOPS: 2430
FY 19 YTD: 5629
FY 18 YTD: 7807
INCIDENT REPORTS FOR AUGUST 2018:

BOATING ACCIDENTS WITHOUT INJURIES: 1
There was one accident that involved a vessel colliding with another at the Pass Christian Harbor during the month of August. There were no injuries involved in this accident.

BOATING ACCIDENTS WITH INJURIES: 1
There was one accident with minor injuries during the month of August when a shrimp boat sank in the East Biloxi Ship Channel. One of the individuals received a laceration to his toe during this accident.

Total Accidents- 2
FY 19 YTD: 10
FY 18 YTD: 11

TOTAL WATER INCIDENTS: 0
FY 19 YTD: 0
FY 18 YTD: 1

TOTAL FATALITIES (Boating and Non-Boating): 0
FY 19 YTD: 0
FY 18 YTD: 2

DIVE ACTIVITY: There was Dive Activity for the month of August.
ASSISTS WITH PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS:

Assists to Another Agency- 16
Traffic accident without Injury- 2
Assist to Kayakers- 2
Overturned Vessel- 2
Assist to Swimmers- 1
Assist to Boaters in Distress/Tow-Ins- 8
Overdue Boater- 1
Vessel Fire- 1
Hazard to Navigation- 1
Sunken Vessel - 1
Illegal Sewage Dumping- 2
Dead Dolphin- 5
Reckless Jet Ski- 3
Medical Emergency- 2
Vessel Afloat- 2
Total- 49
FY 19 YTD: 117
FY 18 YTD: 116

MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINTS/REPORTS:

Assist to Motorist- 2
Theft of Crab Traps- 1
Theft of Crabs- 5
Island Fire- 1
Injured Bird- 4
Illegal crabbing- 1
Fishermen threatening Others- 1
Manatee Sighting- 1
Debris in the Water- 4
Boaters Playing Loud Music- 2
Derelict Vessel- 4
Suspicious Boaters- 1
Littering- 2
Illegal Fishing Activity- 7
Suspicious Net Boaters- 2
Wetlands Violation- 3
Total- 42
FY 19 YTD: 73
FY 18 YTD: 83
Title 22 Part 23

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE COASTAL WETLANDS PROTECTION LAW AND THE MISSISSIPPI COASTAL PROGRAM

Final Adoption

Willa Brantley

September 18, 2018
CMR Passed Notice of Intent on July 17, 2018

Notice of Intent Filed with the SOS on July 19, 2018
Legal Notice
Appeared in the Sun Herald on July 29, August 5, and August 12, 2018
Public Comments

• Notice of Intent Published on July 19, 2018
• Public Comment period July 19th through August 20th, 2018 (32 days)
• MS SOS submitted comments with 8 requested changes
Public Comments cont.

- Include SOS as a Coastal Program Agency
- Require that an application include proof that a Tidelands lease has been applied for or is not required to be complete
- Add that Coastal Preserve System designations will be coordinated between MDMR and SOS
- Remove reference to DEQ as a leasing agency in the Coastal Wetlands Use Plan chapter
- Remove Tidelands leases from the list of State Agency Actions Subject to Review
- Add definitions of 4 terms
Current text Chapter 08, 103.01:

For erosion control, nonstructural methods must be used in preference to structural methods. Vegetation as a nonstructural method is preferred to structural methods of sloping (3:1) rip-rap, and rip-rap is preferred to vertical seawalls. Vertical face bulkheads may be used only in low energy areas such as canals, bayous, tidal rivers, protected ports and harbors.
Public Comments cont.

**Proposed change:**

- For erosion control, nonstructural methods must be used in preference to structural methods. Vegetation as a nonstructural method is preferred to structural methods of sloping (3:1) rip-rap, and rip-rap is preferred to vertical seawalls. *Use and failure of nonstructural or sloping rip-rap for 3 years must be demonstrated prior to request and approval of vertical face bulkhead or other erosion control method.* Vertical face bulkheads may be used only in low energy areas such as canals, bayous, tidal rivers, protected ports and harbors.
These would all be considered a Substantive Change by NOAA. At this time, we are only proposing a Routine Programmatic Change.

This programmatic change is required by NOAA and was included as an Action Item on our last program review.

These SOS changes will be considered at a later date when we are ready to propose a Substantive Change to the program.
Public Comments cont.

- Add a statement that the Coastal Wetlands Use Plan map is available online
  - Map is not currently available online
Required:

A motion for final adoption of

Title 22 Part 23
Mississippi
Department of Marine Resources
Agency Financial Results
as of August 31, 2018
Commission on Marine Resources
September 18, 2018
Key Metrics:

- State Revenue of $3.2M
- Agency Revenue of $3.3M
- State Net Income of $2.4M
- Agency Net Income of $1.5M
Financial Budget Comparison

- After two months of Fiscal Year 2019:
  - Operating Funds have 95.1% of Budget remaining
  - Tidelands Trust Fund has 96.0% of Budget remaining

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<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Operating</th>
<th>Tidelands</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Wireless Devices</td>
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<td>97.3%</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>97.9%</td>
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<td>Wireless Devices</td>
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<td>100.0%</td>
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<td>Subsidies, Loans, and Grants</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>96.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>95.3%</strong></td>
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</table>
The MS Department of Marine Resources was mentioned 19 times in local, state and national media since the August CMR meeting. Popular news items included the reopening of Snapper season and National Heritage Area’s work with eco-tourism projects.

Marine Patrol taught one boat-and-water safety class and certified five students. So far in FY19, officers have taught six classes and certified 106 students.

Marine Patrol also participated in Education Day at the Biloxi Shuckers baseball game, the Harrison County Youth Fishing Rodeo and Biloxi’s annual Fight against Crime event.

Our agency also participated in various events in the community. Jason Rider gave a presentation on off-bottom aquaculture at Moss Point High School and Jessica Rankin in the Office of Marine Fisheries demonstrated an oyster dissection to a zoology class at Harrison Central High School.

Marine Patrol, along with Public Affairs and volunteers from throughout the agency, took part in the Biloxi Seafood Festival September 8 and 9. In addition to having a Marine Patrol Boat on display, we handed out our rules and regulations publication, fish ruler stickers, fish posters, items from the National Heritage Area and other informational pieces to the public.

Since the last CMR meeting, the agency’s Wellness Committee hosted a Health and Wellness Fair where our agency, along with the others in this building, were invited to attend the day long event. Marine Fisheries and Human Resources set up the Cookies for a Cure Bake Sale where proceeds would be donated to the American Cancer Society. This year, $125 was donated to the organization adding to a total of $1,712 that has been donated from MDMR to the American Cancer Society since 2013.
Oyster Depuration Overview

Ruth Posadas
September 18, 2018
Background

CMR Motion (May 15): For DMR to comeback with recommendations to develop a program for a depuration facility and to develop a feasibility study, a cost analysis and a funding source.
Needed Actions

- Develop an Oyster Depuration Program
- Develop a Feasibility Study
- Present a Cost Analysis
- Find a Funding Source
Oyster Processing Options and Products

- Depuration Process
  - Regular Process
  - Post-Harvest Process
  - Resource Wild/Aquaculture
- Other Options:
  - Wet Storage
  - High Hydrostatic Pressure
  - Pasteurization
- Depurated
- Shucked
- Shellstock
- Irradiated
- IQF*

* Individually Quick Frozen

Available Options

Proposed Option
Oyster Depuration Program Needs

- Guidelines to Build a Program – (Rules and Regulations)
- Site Selection – (Technology, Water and Resource)
- Facility – (Plant Design, Construction, Equipment and Operating System)
- Labor – (Expertise for Management and Trained Manpower)
- Utilities – (Power and Potable Water)
- Laboratory – (In-house/Independent FDA Certified Lab)
- Regulatory Concerns – (Inspector, Permits, Licenses and Certifications)
- Feasibility Study – (Cost Benefits and Returns)
Site Selection

- JACKSON COUNTY - Commission Recommendation
  - Available Water (Source/Effluence outlet)
  - Available Technology
  - Limited Expertise
  - Private/State Laboratory
  - Limited Manpower
  - Limited Resource
  
* Legal size Oysters

Estimated Oysters in Jackson County:

37,588 sacks *
Area 6
2017
Facility Operation

- **Receiving**
- **Washing**
- **Ultra Violet Sterilizer**
- **DEPURATION PLANT Tanks or Raceways**
- **HARVESTING AND PACKAGING**
- **STORAGE COOLER AND/OR FREEZER**
- **MARKETING AND TRANSPORT**

- 2 HOURS
- 42 - 78 HOURS
- 2 HOURS
- \(\leq 45^\circ\)
# Standards for Depuration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Flow Rate:</strong></th>
<th>1 gal/ minute/bushel (0.626 sack)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volume of water:</strong></td>
<td>59.84 gallons/bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salinity:</strong></td>
<td>10 ppt to 30 ppt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temperature:</strong></td>
<td>≤ 60.7° F / 77 ° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>American Oyster spawns ≥60.7°F</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gulf of Mexico Oysters ≥77°F</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turbidity:</strong></td>
<td>0-20 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>pH:</strong></td>
<td>7.0 – 8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dissolved Oxygen:</strong></td>
<td>5.0 mg/L to saturation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bacteriological:</strong></td>
<td>(Total Coliform/100 ml): 0 to &lt; 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Depuration Time:</strong></td>
<td>≥ 44 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regulatory Requirements

MUST HAVE:

- License: MS Seafood Dealer’s License (MDMR)
- Permit: MS Aquaculture Permit (MDAC)
- Certification: MS –001– DP (MDMR)
- Depuration Plant Operations Manual (Company)
- Memorandum of Agreement (MS and another state)
  - The company plans to do business with a dealer from a different state as source or a receiver of depurated oysters
- Laboratory to analyze bacteriological contents of water and end product testing
A FEASIBILITY STUDY

A feasibility study will be contracted to conduct an economic feasibility of a depuration plant in Jackson County with cost analysis on the specific requirements of a depuration plant.
POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

• Feasibility Study – Tideland’s Funds/BP Restore Funds
• Partner with Colleges or Universities to get federal funding from the Department of Labor and Department of Education under the Mandated Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (July 22, 2014)
• Depuration Plant – Collaboration with Local Government and Private Sector
• Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant (NOAA) – Address the Needs of Fishing Communities
QUESTIONS?
Motion: Pursue funding alternatives for oyster depuration including onshore and offshore
Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9
Spotted Seatrout Endorsement

Matt Hill
September 18, 2018
Background

August 21st the CMR passed a motion to withdraw the original NOI.

Additionally, at the August meeting, the CMR made a motion for staff to prepare language addressing charter for-hire industry Spotted Seatrout endorsement qualifications.
Beginning January 1, 2019 individuals commercially harvesting Spotted Seatrout (Cynoscion nebulosus) must possess a Spotted Seatrout endorsement ($10.00) in addition to a current applicable harvester’s license. To qualify for this endorsement an application must be completed. For the 2019 fishing season the fisher must present documentation that a minimum of twenty (20) percent of their taxable income came from commercial fishing activities in a previous tax year between 2013-2018. Documentation shall be a copy of the appropriate filed IRS tax form showing the applicant’s taxable income for one of those years. A Marine Fisheries Trip Ticket officer will then run a sales summary for the year chosen using trip tickets to determine if the eligibility requirement has been met. This endorsement will be valid for a one-year period at which time a new application with qualifying documents for the previous tax year shall be submitted for a new endorsement. The endorsement will be valid from January 1st – December 31st each year. In the event of a hardship approved by the Commission, the department may consider qualifying documents for the two years prior to the onset of the hardship.
Charter For-Hire Income Consideration

Charter for-hire owners/operators shall be allowed to use income from charter for-hire activities to qualify for the Spotted Seatrout endorsement. For the 2019 fishing season the fisher must present documentation that a minimum of twenty (20) percent of their taxable income came from charter for-hire and/or commercial fishing activities in a previous tax year between 2013-2018. Documentation shall be a copy of the appropriate filed IRS tax form showing the applicant’s taxable income for one of those years. A Marine Fisheries Trip Ticket officer will determine the income derived from charter for-hire activities then run a commercial sales summary for the year chosen using trip tickets to determine if the eligibility requirement has been met. This endorsement will be valid for a one-year period at which time a new application with qualifying documents for the previous tax year shall be submitted for a new endorsement. The endorsement will be valid from January 1st – December 31st each year. In the event of a hardship approved by the Commission, the department may consider qualifying documents for the two years prior to the onset of the hardship.
Current Endorsements

Upon approval of the proposed regulation change to Title 22 Part 7 Section 110 all Spotted Seatrout Endorsements shall expire November 16, 2018.
Required:

A motion for Notice of Intent of regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 Section 110 modifying the requirements for the Spotted Seatrout Endorsement

Modified: A motion to send the language that was withdrawn last month out for Notice of Intent for regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 Section 110 modifying the requirements for the Spotted Seatrout Endorsement
Title 22 Part 5 Chapter 4

One-Mile Commercial Net Exclusion Zone
Around Cat Island
Final Adoption

Joe Jewell
September 18, 2018
CMR Passed Notice of Intent on July 17, 2018

Notice of Intent filed with the SOS Office on July 18, 2018
Legal Notice Appeared in the Sun Herald on July 29, 2018
1. Public Hearing Sept. 11, 2018

- Public attendance: 102
- Number of commenters: 25
  - Support the proposed changes – 17
  - Oppose the proposed changes - 8
- Public Officials:
  - Commissioners – Bosarge, Gollott, Havard and Daniels
  - Representatives Greg Haney and Stacy Wilkes
  - MDMR Employees: 17
  - Marine Patrol: 7
- TOTAL in Attendance: 132
- Written Comments/Petitions: 5
  - MS Commercial Fisheries United 2 board letters opposing proposed changes and one petition with 303 commenters opposing proposed changes
  - Mr. JL McNew 1 petition with 1,040 commenters supporting proposed changes
  - Mr. Talmitch Delany 1 petition with 30,487 commenters opposing proposed changes.
1. MS Commercial Fisheries United – organization opposition statement to proposed regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 5 (Originally submitted on August 10, 2018).

2. MS Commercial Fisheries United – organization opposition requesting an EIS for the proposed regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 5 (Originally submitted on August 27, 2018).

3. MS Commercial Fisheries United – petition opposing the regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 5. a total of 303 commenters on this petition (Originally submitted on August 20, 2018).
1. Summary of Public Hearing Comments

Petitions/Written Comments

4. Mr. JL McNew submitted a petition with 1,040 commenters supporting the proposed regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 5.

5. Mr. Talmitch Delany submitted a petition with 30,487 commenters opposing the regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 5 (An update of the petition submitted on August 21, 2018 with then 19,446 commenters.)
Cat Island Public Hearing Comments

- Support: 3%
- Oppose: 97%
2. Public Comments - Summary

- Notice of Intent Published on July 18, 2018
- Public Comment period July 19th through August 20, 2018 (33 days).
- To date 1,022 public comments have been received.
- Care2 petition with 19,446 comments opposing all activities that harm seagrass beds on Cat Island.
- 78 requests for a public hearing were made.
- A Public Hearing was scheduled for Tuesday September 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bolton Building Auditorium.
- 78 requests for an Economic Impact Statement to be conducted.
2. Summary of All Public Comments

A total of 1,022 public comments have been received concerning the proposed commercial net ban within one-mile of Cat Island.

Care2 petition with 19,446 (30,487) comments opposing all activities that harm seagrass beds on Cat Island.

1. 681 comments support the commercial net ban around Cat Island.
2. 340 comments oppose the commercial net ban around Cat Island.
3. 19,446 oppose all activities, including both commercial and recreational, that damage the seagrass beds on Cat Island.
4. 2 groups support the ban: HOSSFLY and the Sierra Club.
5. 2 groups opposes the ban: Mississippi Commercial Fisheries United and Gulf Restoration Network.
2. A. Summary of Speckled Trout Petition
Supporting Commercial Net Ban

On August 16th received Speckled Trout Petition hand delivered with a total of 118 signatures (Hal Lusk and Mark Dubuisson).

Summary of the comments on the form letter:

1. Ban all nets in MS waters for the catch & sell of speckled trout.
2. Commercial fisherman (Rod & Reel) who have endorsement will keep endorsement.
3. Commercial fishermen must abide by the same limits as the recreational fisherman and may only sell 30 speckle trout a day.
4. 50,000 pound quota would remain the same.
2. A. Summary of Public Comments Supporting the Commercial Net Ban Around Cat Island

681 comments in support of the commercial net ban around Cat Island.

- Limit commercial fishing to weekdays – no commercial fishing on the weekends.
- Oppose commercial net fishing around Cat Island.
- Support commercial hook-and-line fishing.
- Ban all commercial nets in Mississippi.
- Reduce the total numbers of Haul Seines and Gill Nets.
- Opposition to selling commercially caught SST out of state.
- Commercial hook-and-line should abide by the same size and quantity limits as the recreational fisherman and should not be allowed to sell over 30 trout per day.
- Require all commercial fishermen and Seafood Markets to fill out and submit Trip Tickets.
2. B. Summary of Public Comments Opposing the Commercial Net Ban around Cat Island – MCFU Petition

1. On August 6th Ryan Bradley submitted 17 comments on a form letter

2. August 10th MCFU Board Statement

3. On August 13th submitted the form letter with 38 comments.

Summary of the comments on the form letter:

4. On August 20th Ryan Bradley submitted 14 comments on a form letter for a total of: 69

5. On August 21st Ryan Bradley submitted 8 comments on a form letter for a total of: 78

1. Opposes the proposed fish net ban on Cat Island.

2. Requests an oral hearing be held on this proposed regulatory change.

3. Requests that an Economic Impact Statement be conducted.

4. Request that best available science be available and be considered with this proposal.

Example of form letter

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
ATTN: Jon Jewell
1145 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530

I oppose regulatory changes being proposed by the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources to Title 22 Part 5, Chapter 4 that would make it unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to catch take or carry away any saltwater fish by or with any gill nets, trawl nets, purse seines, seines, fish traps, or any other like contrivances within an area formed by a line running one (1) mile from the shoreline of Cat Island. This proposed regulation will have a severe adverse impact on my commercial fishing business and affect my ability to make a living commercial fishing. I request that an oral proceeding be held before final adoption of this proposed regulation is voted upon. Due to the fact that this regulation is likely to have an adverse economic impact to the commercial fishing industry in excess of $100,000.00 in total I request that an economic impact statement be conducted. I also request that the need for this proposed regulation be clearly conveyed and that the best available science supporting the proposed regulation be presented before this proposed rule is considered for final adoption.

Name: Edith F. Smith
Address: 6399 Calverton Circle
Phone number: 229-20 96 803
Signature: Edward W. Smith

(Pages: 17+38+14+8+1=78)
2. B. Summary of Public Comments Opposing the Commercial Net Ban around Cat Island – MCFU Organization Statement

1. Proposed changes are not consistent with standards for fishery conservation and management as required by MCA §49-15-2.
2. No valid reason for the proposed regulation was stated publicly.
3. The Notice of Intent for the proposed regulation was not properly authorized by the Commission on Marine Resources.
4. The approval of the Notice of Intent for the proposed regulation is arbitrary and capricious.
5. The proposed regulation has a disparate impact against a certain class of commercial fishermen in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
2. B. Summary of Comments from Online Care2 Petition as submitted by Ryan Bradley

A total of 251 signatures submitted on August 20, 2018 by Ryan Bradley

1. Where’s all the data for closing these waters - my guess there is no data.
2. Because I’m a fisherman in Mississippi I support my family with my boats and this would put a burden on my income.
3. We need commercial fishing to stay here in the USA and provide America our fish. Keep the nets.
4. CCA is the enemy of hard working commercial fishermen. They won’t be happy until all seafood is imported.
Tell the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources that their NOI to modify, change, and amend Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 4 to create an exclusive zone around Cat Island does not do enough to protect sensitive seagrass beds on the island and that this regulatory change should be rejected to include broader protections for these important habitats.

Activities such as motoring through seagrass, anchoring, wading, using trolling motors, power poles and push polls in sensitive seagrass areas around Cat Island should also be included in the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources protections for seagrass around Cat Island, MS.
GRN opposes proposed rule as written because they are not supported by scientific evidence and do not address other activities...

GRN would support any action by the MDMR that would protect seagrass or other EFH

Notes that nothing in proposed rule documents or public notices has a conservation motive by banning haul seines.
2. B. Summary of Public Comments Opposing the Commercial Net Ban around Cat Island

- Would like the MDMR to take into consideration that this would have a large financial impact on the local economy.
- No scientific basis to support this action and is purely discriminatory.
- If CMR is truly concerned about SST on Cat Island they should conduct a scientific survey to determine how each user group is affecting the resource on Cat Island.
- Will have great economic impact on commercial fishermen and the local economy.
- This action will reallocate resource from one user group to another.
- Recreational fishermen have it all and now they want to take away Cat Island.
- If enacted will further reduce commercial fishermen’s area to fish.
- Finds it highly discriminatory as a net fishermen when other commercial activities can continue such as charter fishing, rod and reel fishing, crabbing and shrimping.
- Has large investment in commercial gear (boats and motors).
Summary of All comments

Support: 5%
Oppose: 95%
Section 101

101.04 Within an area formed by a line running one (1) mile from the shoreline of Cat, Ship, Horn, Petit Bois, and Round Island, or from the shoals of Telegraph Keys and Telegraph Reef (Merrill Coquille), during the period from May 15 to September 15 of each year.

101.05 Within an area formed by a line running one (1) mile from the shoreline of Cat Island
Title 22 Part 5
Chapter 04 Commercial Net Closure
Areas and Gear Size Restrictions

Section 101

- 101.05 101.06 Within twelve hundred (1,200) feet of any private piers which extend a distance of seventy-five (75) feet or more from the shoreline, except when mullet fishing.

- 101.06 101.07 Within three-hundred (300) feet of any private piers which extend a distance of seventy-five (75) feet or more from the shoreline when mullet fishing.

- 101.07 101.08 All of the aforementioned piers must be in usable condition with boards spaced in such a way that persons can walk the entire distance of the pier.

- 101.08 101.09 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use at any time trammel nets, gill nets, seines, or any other like contrivances in excess of twelve-hundred (1200) feet in length. Except when fishing gill and trammel nets between October 15 through December 15 of each year, nets must be of a mesh size of one and one half (1-1/2) inch square, three (3) inch stretch or larger, and it shall be unlawful for any boat to use more than one (1) such net. Between October 15 through December 15 of each year, gill and trammel nets must be of a mesh size of one and three-fourths (1 3/4) inch square, three and one-half (3 ½) inch stretch or larger, and it shall be unlawful for any boat to use more than one (1) such net.

- 101.09 101.10 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation other than licensed menhaden vessels engaged in menhaden fishing, to use or have in possession purse seine(s) in excess of fifteen hundred (1500) feet in length. Said nets must be of a mesh size of one-half (½) inch square, one (1) inch stretch or larger.

- 101.10 101.11 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to leave a gill net, trammel net, purse seine, seine or any other net like contrivance governed by the restrictions set forth in this Part unattended in the waters of this state, and at least one person shall be required to stand by, within one boat length of the boat using said net, at all times the net is in the water. It shall further be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use or have in their possession a gill net, trammel net, seine or like contrivance on the waters of this state without a visible buoy attached every one hundred (100) feet clearly marked with the license number or owner’s full name thereon.
Motion for final adoption of regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 5, Chapter 04: Commercial Net Closure Areas and Gear Size Restrictions, Section 101.04 (removes Cat Island from seasonal opening), adds Section 101.05 establishing a one (1) mile commercial net restriction zone around Cat Island, and renumbers all section after the newly created Section 101.05
Mississippi Oyster Task Force

Kristina Broussard
September 2018
§ 49-15-25. Advisory council may be appointed by commission

The commission may appoint an advisory council of persons who may fairly be regarded as representative of all the various segments of the industry. This council shall aid the commission in formulating policies and discussing problems related to the administration of this chapter and the advancement and protection of the industry.
Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the Mississippi Oyster Task Force is to:
1. Optimize Mississippi’s oyster fishery through increased communication within the fishery
2. Make recommendations to the MDMR and CMR

Goals of the Mississippi Oyster Task Force are to:
1. Identify problems within the oyster fishery and possible solutions
2. Encourage conservation of the resource and its habitat
3. Improve the overall value of the oyster fishery
Objectives

- Identify and prioritize challenges within the oyster fishery/industry
- Make recommendations to the CMR pertaining to the oyster fishery that are based upon sound biological and economic principles
- Take appropriate steps, such as preparation of proposed legislation, to resolve problems and issues
Membership

- Seven (7) Voting members:
  - Two (2) Dealers/Processors
  - Two (2) Tongers
  - Two (2) Dredgers
  - One (1) Aquaculture Representative

- Seven (7) Non-Voting Members:
  - One (1) CMR Commissioner Representative
  - One (1) MDMR Marine Patrol Officer
  - One (1) MDMR Marine Fisheries Scientist
  - One (1) MDMR Oyster Aquaculture Scientist
  - One (1) GCRL Representative
  - One (1) Elected Official
  - One (1) MDMR Chief Science Officer
Motion: To Proceed With The Establishment Of The Mississippi Oyster Task Force

Motion: To Proceed With The Establishment Of The Mississippi Oyster Task Force upon commission approval of the representatives. The task force shall include a recreational representative and shall be established for a period of one year.
2018 Oyster Season Update

Erik Broussard
September 18, 2018
2017-2018 MDMR Cultch Plant Sites

Spring 2017 Cultch Plants - Completed May
Fall 2017 Cultch Plants - Completed Sept
Spring 2016 Cultch Plants - Completed May
Fall 2016 Cultch Plants - Completed August
Public Oyster Reefs

0 0.5 1 2 Miles
One Minute Dredge Tows & Square Meter Dive Sampling

- Physical parameters – salinity, oxygen, air/water temperature, secchi depth, wind speed/direction, depth, tidal stage, seas, bottom type.
- Size frequency of live oysters, mortality, cluster data.
- Predators/competitors (oyster drills, hooked mussels, stone crabs, etc.)
64 Dredge Tows
464 m² Dives
232 Station Locations
528 Total Samples
2018 Waveland - m² dives (5 acres)

Third year’s crop

This year’s crop
2018 Biloxi Bay Cultch - m² dives (17 acres)

Biloxi Bay '16-'19

- Spat Size 1-9mm
- Spat Size 10-24mm
- Seed Size 25-49mm
- Seed Size 50-74mm
- Sack Size ≥75mm

Oysters/m²

- '16-'17
- '17-'18 Season
- '18-'19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size Range</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spat Size 1-9mm</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spat Size 10-24mm</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed Size 25-49mm</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Size 50-74mm</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sack Size ≥75mm</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trend (log)
2018 Pass Christian Tonging - m² dives (886 acres)

Pass Christian Tonging '14-19

- Spat Size 1-9mm
- Spat Size 10-24mm
- Seed Size 25-49mm
- Seed Size 50-74mm
- Seed Size (≥75mm)
- Sack Size 275mm
- Trend (Log)

# Oysters/m²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th># Oysters/m²</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'14-15</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'15-'16</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>'16-'17</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>'17-'18</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'18-'19</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th># Oysters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spat Size 1-9mm</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spat Size 10-24mm</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Size 25-49mm</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Size 50-74mm</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed Size (≥75mm)</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sack Size 275mm</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018 St. Joe - m² dives (473 acres)

St. Joe Reef '14-18

- Spat Size 1-9mm
- Spat size 10-24mm
- Seed size 25-49mm
- Seed size 50-74mm
- Sack size ≥75mm
- Trend (Log)

Season:
- '14-15
- '15-16
- '16-17
- '17-18
- '18-19

# Oysters/m²

Spat Size (1-9mm) 1.4
Spat Size (10-24mm) 0.4
Seed Size (25-49mm) 0.7
Seed Size (50-74mm) 1.3
Sack Size (≥75mm) 3.1
2018 St. Stanislaus - m² dives (75 acres)

St. Stanislaus '14-19

- Spat Size 1-9mm
- Spat Size 10-24mm
- Seed size 25-49mm
- Seed size 50-74mm
- Seed size 75mm+
- Sack size ≥75mm
- Trend (Lag)

Oysters/m²

- '14-15
- '15-16
- '16-17
- '17-18
- '18-19

Spat Size

- 0.1
- 0.3

Seed Size

- 0.1
- 0.1

Sack Size

- 1.3

Sizes:
- Spat Size (1-9mm)
- Spat Size (10-24mm)
- Seed Size (25-49mm)
- Seed Size (50-74mm)
- Sack Size (≥75mm)
2018 Between Bridges -m² dives (28 acres)

Between Bridges '14-19

- Spat Size 1-9mm
- Spat size 10-24mm
- Seed size 25-49mm
- Seed size 50-74mm
- Sack size ≥75mm

Oysters/m²

Seasons:
- '15-16
- '16-17
- '17-18
- '18-19

Additional data:

- Spat Size
  - 1-9mm: 0.0
  - 10-24mm: 0.0

- Seed Size
  - 25-49mm: 0.1
  - 50-74mm: 0.9

- Sack Size
  - ≥75mm: 1.3
## 2018 Mississippi Oyster Stock Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reef</th>
<th>2018 Est. Sack Total</th>
<th>Sacks @30% Harvest</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass Tonging</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>Near depletion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Dredging</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Near depletion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Point</td>
<td>2,064</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>Near depletion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Marianne</td>
<td>1,309</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>Near depletion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>No resource</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joe</td>
<td>21,230</td>
<td>6,369</td>
<td>Fished heavily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Stanislaus</td>
<td>1,427</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>Fished heavily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveland</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Recovering (limited resource)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between the Bridges</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>Resource recovering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Western Reefs</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,261</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,178</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biloxi Bay Cultch Plant</strong></td>
<td><strong>675</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,936</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,381</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2018 Est. Sack Total**
Options for a motion on the 2018-19 Oyster Season.

1. No harvest for the 2018-19 oyster season
2. 30% quota by area for the 2018-19 oyster season
3. Limited 2018-19 Season: 1 week before Thanksgiving and 1 week before Christmas
• Motion: Adopt option three for the Western Sound with a 30% quota by area starting November 10 for a maximum of seven days and again on December 10 for a maximum of seven days with staff having management flexibility to assign bad weather days.
• Motion: Adopt option three for the Western Sound with a 30% quota by area starting November 10 for a maximum of seven days with staff having management flexibility to assign bad weather days.
Motion: That the bag limit be set at 15 tonging and 25 dredging for the 2018-19 oyster season.
Commercial Size Limit Change for Gag
Final Adoption

Carly Somerset
August 21, 2018
CMR Passed Notice of Intent on August 21, 2018

Notice of Intent Filed with the SOS on August 22, 2018
Title 22 Part 07 - Fish Size and Bag Limits (Gag Grouper) - Proposed Changes

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) does hereby give public notice that on August 22, 2018 at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on Marine Resources, the Commission approved a Notice of Intent to update, modify and change below listed sections of Title 22 Part 07. A copy of proposed regulation changes will be publicly available at www.dmr.ms.gov. Public comments on the proposed regulation changes will be accepted through December 17, 2018. All comments should be made to the MDMR, attn: Carl Sommerfelt, 1741 Devereaux Street, Biloxi, MS 39530 or emailed to: Carl.Sommerfelt@dmr.ms.gov and delivered by 5:00 PM on December 17, 2018.

Complete description of proposed changes:

Title 22 - MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES, PART 7 REGULATIONS ON FISH SIZE LIMITS AND BAG LIMITS ON SELECT FISH SPECIES AND TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO RECREATIONAL FISHERMAN

Chapter 3 (Commercial Size, Possession and Bag Limits)

Section 30

100 ft Gag grouper - twenty-four-inch minimum length
Legal Notice appeared in the Sun Herald on Sept. 6, 2018
Public Comments

- Notice of Intent Published on August 22, 2018
- Public Comment period August 22, 2018 through September 17, 2018 (27 days)
- To date, 0 public comments have been received
Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9

Commercial Size, Possession and Catch Limits

Section 100

100.18 Gag Grouper – twenty-two (22) twenty-four (24) inches (total length)
Required:

A Motion for Final Adoption to Amend Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 Section 100 Subsection 100.18 commercial size limit for Gag.
Title 22 Part 7
Chapters 8 and 9
Commercial and Recreational Bag and Size Limit Changes for Mutton Snapper
Final Adoption

Brittany Chudzik
September 18, 2018
CMR Passed Notice of Intent on August 21, 2018

Notice of Intent Filed with the SOS on August 22, 2018
Public Notices

Title 22 Part 07 - Fish Size and Bag Limits (Mutton Snapper) - Proposed Changes

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) does hereby give public notice that on August 21, 2018, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on Marine Resources, the Commission approved a Notice of Intent to Publicly Modify and Change below listed sections of Title 22 Part 7. Said Notice of Intent was filed with the Mississippi Secretary of State's office on August 22, 2018.

A complete copy of Title 22 Part 7 and the proposed changes are available at www.dmr.ms.gov. Public comments on the proposed regulation changes will be accepted through September 17, 2018. All comments should be mailed to the MDMR, Attn: Brittany Cuhlman, 1111 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530 or emailed to Brittany Cuhlman at brittany.cuhlman@dmr.ms.gov and delivered by 5:00 PM on September 17, 2018.

Complete description of proposed changes:

Title 22 - MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES: PART 7 Regulations for Fresh Water, Saltwater, and Inland Waters

Chapter 8 - Recreational Bag, Possession and Size Limits

Section 150

\( \text{Mutton Snapper (Scombrops argus) - males only, 15 inches (total length)} \)

Section 152

\( \text{Gray Drum (A. flavidus) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Red Drum (A. Virginicus) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{White Shark, Carcharodon carcharias - 60 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Oceanic Blacktip (Carcharhinus limbatus) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Cobia (Rachycentron canadum) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Longbill Spearfish (Istiophorus albicans) - 60 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Walleye (Stizostedion vitreum) - 10 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Brownstripe Blackfish (Forsteryx capua) - 10 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Black Drum (Fistularia commersonii) - 15 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Red Snapper (Lutjanus campechanus) - 12 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Grey Snapper (L. griseus) - 12 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Bull (Sage)fish (Pomatomus saltatrix) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Olive (Sage)fish (P. tangled) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Striped Bass (Morone saxatilis) - 15 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Tautog (L thrurus) - 15 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) - 30 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Baitfish (Chaetodipterus faber) - 12 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Yellowside (R. aurorubens) - 12 inches (total length)} \)

\( \text{Perkins' Shrimp (Pandalus perkinsi) - 2 inches (total length)} \)
Legal Notice appeared in the Sun Herald on Sept. 6, 2018
Public Comments

- Notice of Intent Published on August 22, 2018.
- Public Comment period August 22, 2018 through September 17, 2018 (27 days).
- To date, 0 public comments have been received.
100.12.02 Mutton Snapper (*Lutjanus analis*) – may possess five (5) within the ten (10) fish aggregate

102.06 Mutton Snapper – eighteen (18) inches (total length)
Chapter 8 Section 102
Recreational Bag, Possession and Size Limits

102.05 Red and Mutton Snapper – sixteen (16) inches (total length).
102.06 Mutton Snapper - eighteen (18) inches (total length).
102.07 Vermillion Snapper – ten (10) inches (total length).
102.08 Lane Snapper – eight (8) inches (total length).
102.09 Gray, Schoolmaster, Cubera, Dog, Mahogany, and Yellowtail Snapper – twelve (12) inches (total length).
102.10 Red and Yellowfin Grouper – twenty (20) inches (total length).
102.11 Gag and Black Grouper – twenty-four (24) inches (total length).
102.12 Scamp – sixteen (16) inches (total length).
102.13 Gray Triggerfish – fourteen (14) inches (fork length).
102.14 King Mackerel – twenty-four (24) inches (fork length).
102.15 Flounders (Paralicthys sp.) – twelve (12) inches (total length).
102.16 Small coastal sharks – twenty-five (25) inches total length.
102.17 Large coastal sharks – thirty-seven (37) inches total length.
102.18 Lesser Amberjack and Banded Rudderfish – may possess fish between fourteen (14) inches (fork length) to twenty-two (22) inches fork length.
102.19 Bigeye Tuna (Thunnus obesus) – twenty-seven (27) inches as measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail along the contour of the middle of the body (curved fork length).
102.20 Yellowfin Tuna (Thunnus albacares) – twenty-seven (27) inches as measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail along the contour of the middle of the body (curved fork length).
102.21 Blue Marlin (Makaira nigricans) – ninety-nine (99) inches as measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (lower jaw fork length).
102.22 White Marlin (Tetrapturus albidus) – sixty-six (66) inches as measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (lower jaw fork length).
102.23 Sailfish (Istiophorus platypterus) – sixty-three (63) inches as measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (lower jaw fork length).
102.24 Hogfish – twelve (12) inches (fork length)
102.25 Tripletail (Lobotes surinamensis) eighteen (18) inches total length
Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9

Commercial Size, Possession and Catch Limits

Section 100

100.11 Mutton Snapper – sixteen (16) eighteen (18) inches (total length)
Required:

A Motion for a Final Adoption of Regulatory Changes to Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 8 and Chapter 9, Section 100 Bag and Size Limit for Mutton Snapper.
State Saltwater Finfish Records

Brittany Chudzik
September 18, 2018
Conventional Tackle
State Saltwater Fishing Record

Inshore Lizardfish

*Synodus foetens*

Old Record: 4.42 oz.
New Record: 5.50

Angler: C. Brennan Sanders
New Youth State Saltwater Fishing Record

Gulf Kingfish
*Menticirrhus littoralis*

New Record: 1 lbs. 8.72 oz.

Angler: Reagan McGarvey
Required:
Motion to Adopt New State Records.