



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Commission on Marine Resources

October 15, 2019



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Employment, Contracts and Procurement Updates

October 15, 2019

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Employment Updates

- 09.09.19 – Jennifer Cumbest – Education Specialist at GBNERR
- 10.01.19 – Eric Gigli – Finfish Scientist IV

Contracts and Procurements for October 2019

<u>Currently Advertised Procurements</u>					
<u>Office Requesting</u>	<u>Procurement Method</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>	<u>Commodity / Service Description</u>	<u>Board Approval</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
Artificial Reef	Invitation for Bids	Up to \$1,000,000.00	Concrete Culvert Deployment	Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB)	100% GOMESA
Artificial Reef	Invitation for Bids	\$1,400,000.00	Ingalls Artificial Reef Deployment	Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB)	100% NFWF
Grand Bay NERR	Request for Applications	\$20,152.08	NERR On the Road Education Assistant Contract Worker	OPSCR Staff Approval	100% NOAA
<u>Service Contracts</u>					
<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Procurement Method</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Commodity/Service Description</u>
Cypress Environment & Infrastructure	Request for Proposals	\$34,253.00	10.15.2019 – 10.14.2020	100% NOAA	CZM Assessment and Strategy
Covington Civil and Environmental	Under Threshold	\$300,000.00	07.01.2019 – 06.30.2021	100% GOMESA	Engineering Services for Coffee Creek Outfall



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Coastal Preserves Update

Jennifer Wittmann
October 15, 2019



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New Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Vessel

- **2020 Pro-Drive X Series Boat with 40 hp Pro-Drive**
 - Air cooled motor with shallow draft vessel
 - Boat and motor together weigh 900 lbs.



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New Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Vessel





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Contractor Burn at DeLisle Unit of the Wolf River Coastal Preserve

- NFWF funded
- 78 acres south of Chemours over 2 days
- Coastal Preserves staff helped with fire line installation and burning
- Contract includes a burn at Wachovia in Hancock County near Infinity and fire line installation at Indian Point in Jackson County



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Contracted Burn at DeLisle Unit of the Wolf River Coastal Preserve





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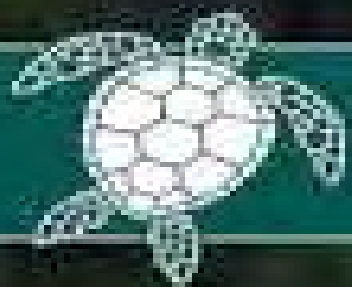




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Mississippi Power Renew Our Rivers Conservation Program wins 2019 EPA Gulf of Mexico Program Gulf Guardian Award for Business and Industry

- Coastal Preserves has partnered with ROR for 10 years
 - Deer Island Coastal Preserve Earth Day Clean-Up
 - Mississippi Power, Harrison County, DMR, Golden Nugget, Harrah's Gulf Coast, Hard Rock, Beau Rivage
 - Pascagoula River
 - Bayou Bernard/Turkey Creek
 - Back Bay



JENNIFER FREY
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

**Request for Permit by:
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
File: DMR-160216**

- **Location:** South of Deer Island in Biloxi, Harrison County, MS.
- **Use District:** (G) General Use District
- **Project Purpose/Need:** To offer additional areas to allow for commercial off-bottom oyster aquaculture. Provide jobs, supplement traditional oyster harvest, and nearshore habitat enhancement.

Project Description

- **Impacts:**
 - **Floating baskets:** Maximum of 12% coverage of site total
 - **Screw-down anchors**
 - **Pilings:**
 - **Wooden:** up to 40 pilings/acre (walking longline only)
 - **PVC:** up to 1,200 2-inch diameter per acre (walking longline only)
- **Coastal Wetlands Use Plan Change**
 - From a (G) General Use classification to a (S-2) Special Use – Leased wetlands for oyster cultivation and a (S-3) Special Use – Leased wetlands by the State for other purposes-in this case: off bottom oyster cultivation.
 - Chapter 8, Section 2, Part I.E. 2.b.ii: “There is a significant public benefit in the activity, impacts to public access and adverse environmental impacts have been minimized, the general public as well as governmental agencies were notified of the project, and a public hearing was held.”



15

Biloxi

Beach Blvd

Oak St

90

E Beach Dr

Deer Island

Biloxi Bay

NW

SW

C

SE

NE

N

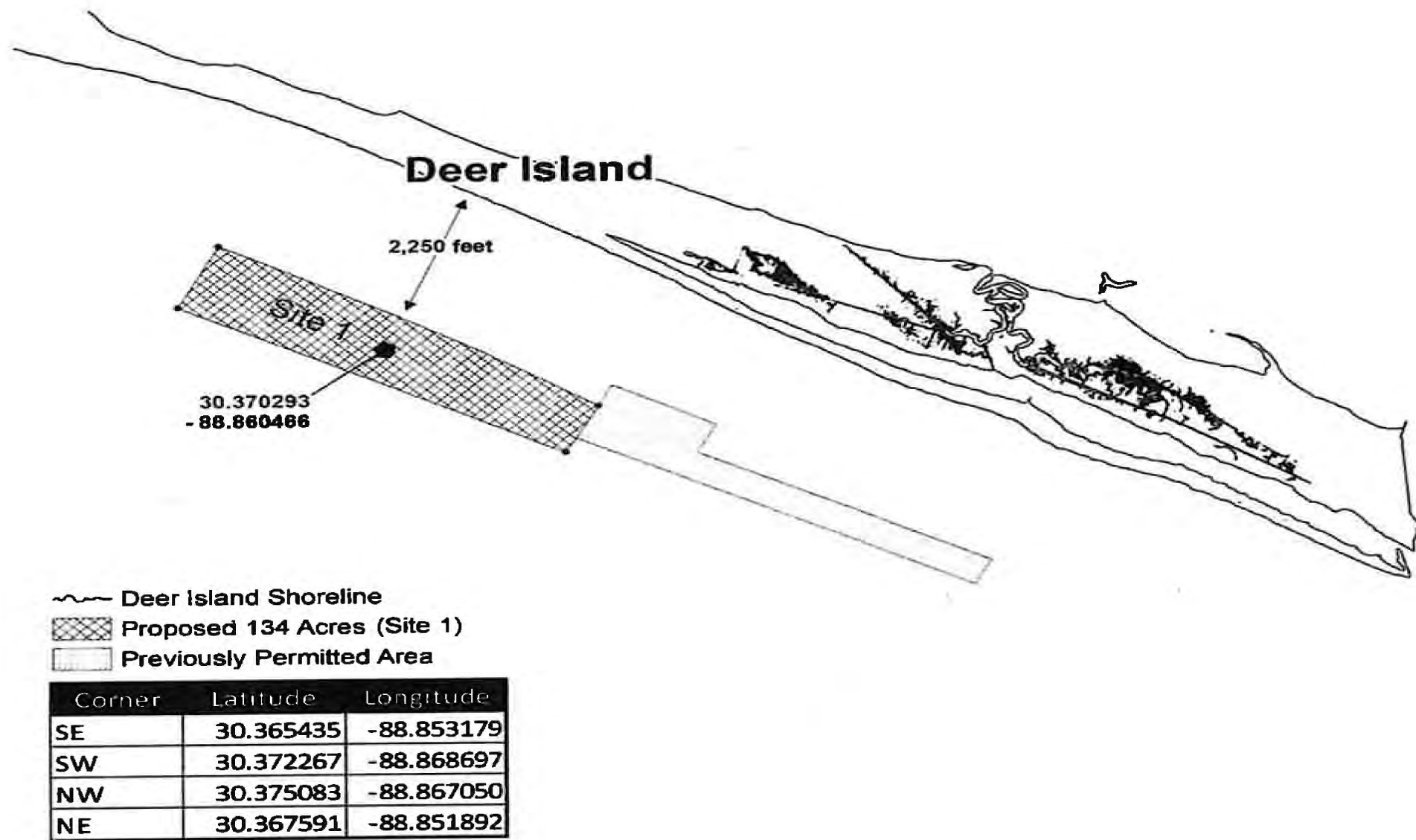


Figure-1. Map of Deer Island Off-Bottom Oyster Aquaculture Project – Expansion.

Public and Agency Notification

- Notification of this project appeared in *The Sun Herald* on April 14, 21, 28, 2019. A public hearing was held on July 9, 2019.
 - No public comments were received
- MS DEQ: Currently reviewing the project
- MS DAH: Survey completed. Awaiting clearance
- MS DWFP: Recommends BMPs
- MS SOS: Lease will be required

Recommendation

- The staff of the Department of Marine Resources has conducted a thorough evaluation of the project and has made findings on the decision factors in accordance with Chapter VIII, Section 2, Part I.E.2. of the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP). These findings have been provided to the Commissioners. Based on the results of these findings, it has been determined that the project is consistent with the MCP because it:
 - Provides a public benefit by creating jobs and providing a product that his in demand and not currently available through local, traditional harvest.
 - Provides nearshore habitat for recreational and commercial fish and invertebrate species
- Staff recommends approval of the Coastal Wetlands Use Plan Change and Permit contingent on water quality certification from MDEQ and clearance from MDAH

**Request for Permit by:
MS Department of Environmental Quality
File: DMR-190242**

- **Location:** Western shoreline of Point Aux Chenes Bay and the banks of Bangs Bayou east of Pascagoula, Jackson County
- **Use District:** (P) Preservation and (G) General Use Districts
- **Project Purpose/Need:**
 - **NRDA Early Restoration Project**
 - Support secondary productivity
- **Agent:** Alane Young, Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC

Project Description

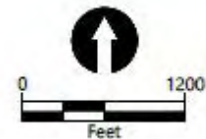
- **Subtidal reef creation:**
 - Approximately 6.5 acres in Point Aux Chenes Bay
- **Intertidal reef creation:**
 - Approximately 3 acres in Bangs Bayou



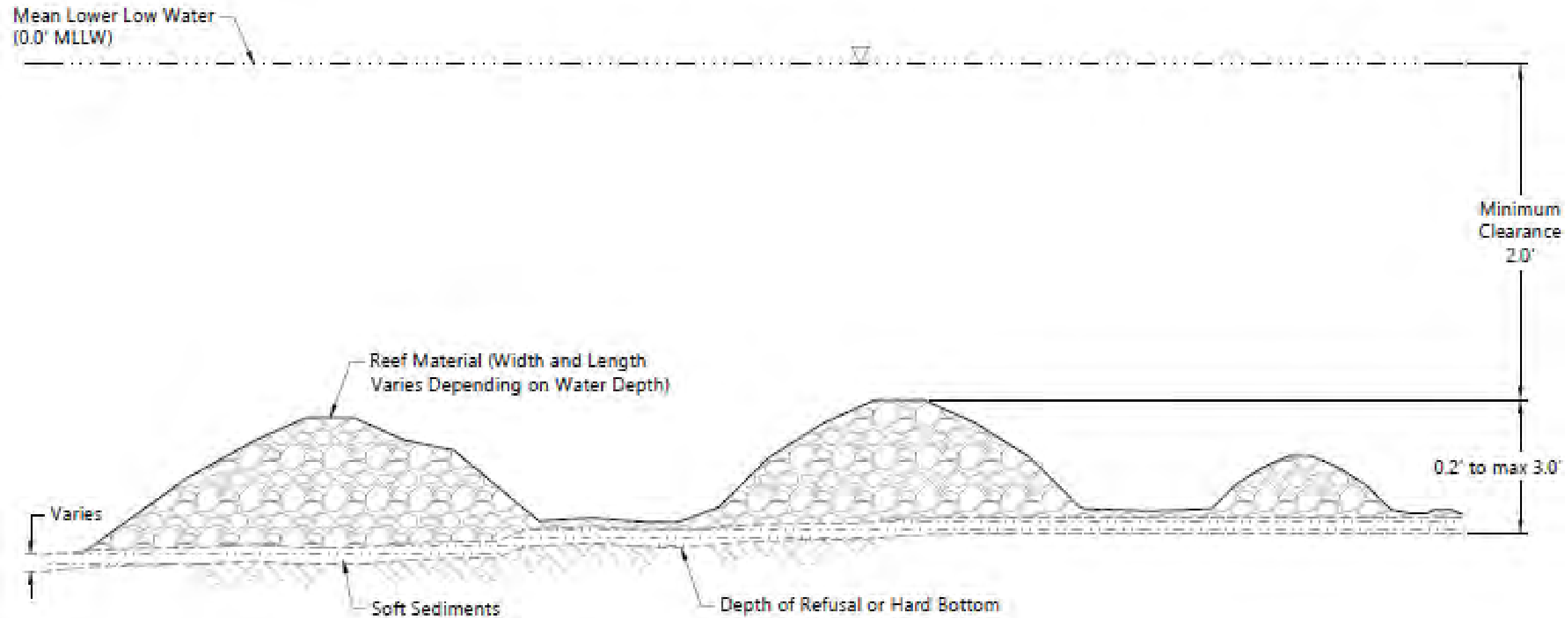
SOURCE: ©2018 Microsoft Corporation ©2018
DigitalGlobe ©CNES (2018) Distribution Airbus DS
HORIZONTAL DATUM: Mississippi State Plane East,
NAD83, U.S. Feet
VERTICAL DATUM: Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW)

LEGEND:

--- Proposed Subtidal Reef Polygons
(total 35 acres) in which 6.5 acres
(maximum) will be located and
constructed in water depths between
the 2.0 and 5.0 foot MLLW contours.



Mean Lower Low Water
(0.0' MLLW)



Typical Subtidal Reef Detail
Not to Scale



AERIAL SOURCE: ©2018 Microsoft Corporation ©2018 DigitalGlobe
©CNES (2018) Distribution Airbus DS

SURVEY SOURCE: DIMCO drawing titled "Hydrographic Survey and
Push Sampling Grids" dated July 12, 2016.

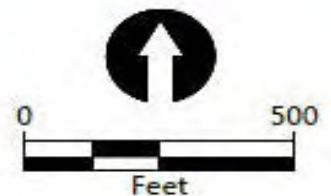
HORIZONTAL DATUM: Mississippi State Plane East, NAD83, U.S. Feet

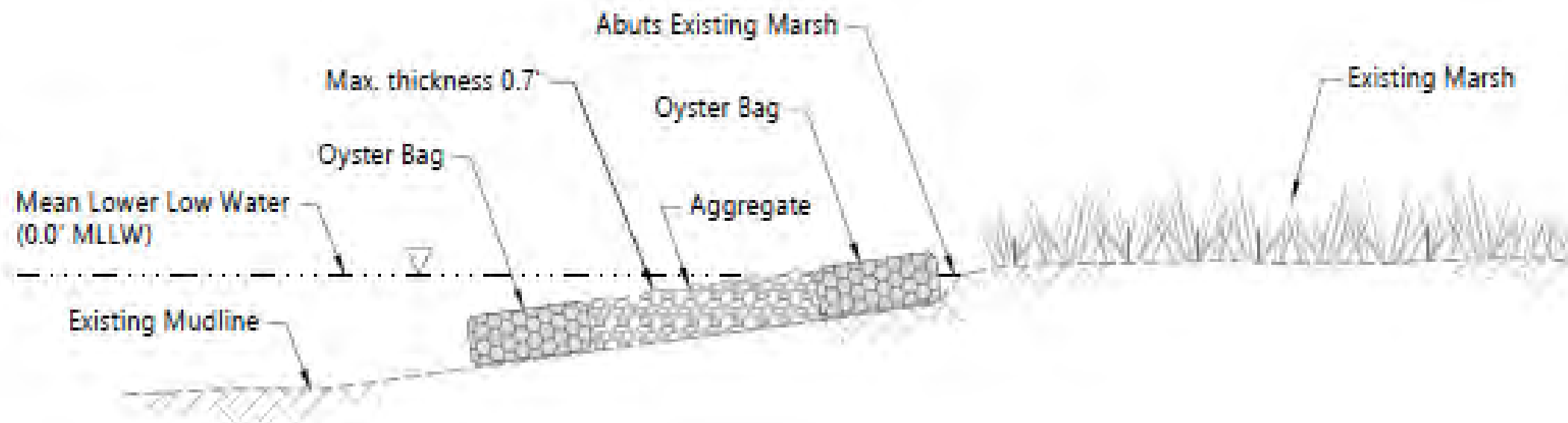
VERTICAL DATUM: Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW)

LEGEND:

----- Proposed Intertidal Reef Polygons (total 8.5 acres) in which
3 acres (maximum) will be located and constructed in water
depths between the -0.5 and +1.5 foot MLLW contours.

Existing Bathymetric Contours (1' Interval)





Typical Intertidal Reef Detail
Not to Scale

Project Description

continued

- **The applicant has requested variances:**
 - **Chapter VIII, Section 2, Part III.O.1. of the MCP.**
 - Permanent filling of Coastal Wetlands because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is discouraged.
 - **Miss. Admin. Code Title 22, Part 23, Chapter 8, Section 114.01**
 - Permanent filling of coastal wetlands below the mean high tide line because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is not authorized
- **These variance requests were justified under Ch. VIII, Sect. 2, Part I.E.2.c.i. and Miss. Admin. Code Title 22, Part 23, Chapter 8, Section 118.01**
 - The Impacts on Coastal Wetlands would be no worse than if the guidelines were followed.

Public and Agency Notification

- Notification of this project appeared in *The Sun Herald* and *Mississippi Press* on March 31, 2019, April 7, 2019, and April 14, 2019.
 - No public comments were received.
- MDEQ: 401 Water Quality Certification was issued on August 19, 2019
- MDAH: No objections
- MS SOS: The project will require a rent exempt lease
- MDWFP: No comments to date

Public and Agency Notification

continued

- **MDMR:**

- Coastal Preserves stated, “The Coastal Preserves Program has no objection to the proposed Grand Bay Intertidal and Subtidal Reef project provided the applicant requests and receives authorization from the riparian property owners.” It was later determined that even though Coastal Preserves and the Grand Bay NERR both have some authority in the proposed project area, that as long as the Grand Bay NERR approved of the project, no additional approval would be needed from Coastal Preserves. The approval from the Grand Bay NERR was provided on September 5, 2019.

Recommendation

- Based upon departmental review and evaluation based on the decision factors in Ch. 8, Sect. 2, Part I.E.2. of the MCP, it has been determined that the project will have a significant public benefit. Therefore, staff recommends that the CMR approve the variance request and issue the requested permit with the following conditions:
 - The project area should be re-checked for the presence of SAV during the growing season prior to implementation of the project.
 - The survey report should be submitted to MDMR Wetlands Permitting staff at least 30 days prior to project commencement
 - If SAV is found in the project area, a final review and approval by MDMR staff should be required prior to project commencement

**Request for Permit by:
MS Department of Environmental Quality
File: DMR-190351**

- **Location:** Southern shoreline of Graveline Bay, Jackson County
- **Use District:** (P) Preservation District
- **Project Purpose/Need:**
 - **NRDA Early Restoration Projects**
 - Support secondary productivity
- **Agent:** Alane Young, Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC

Project Description

- **Subtidal reef creation:**
 - Approximately 10 acres
- **Intertidal reef creation:**
 - Approximately 2 acres

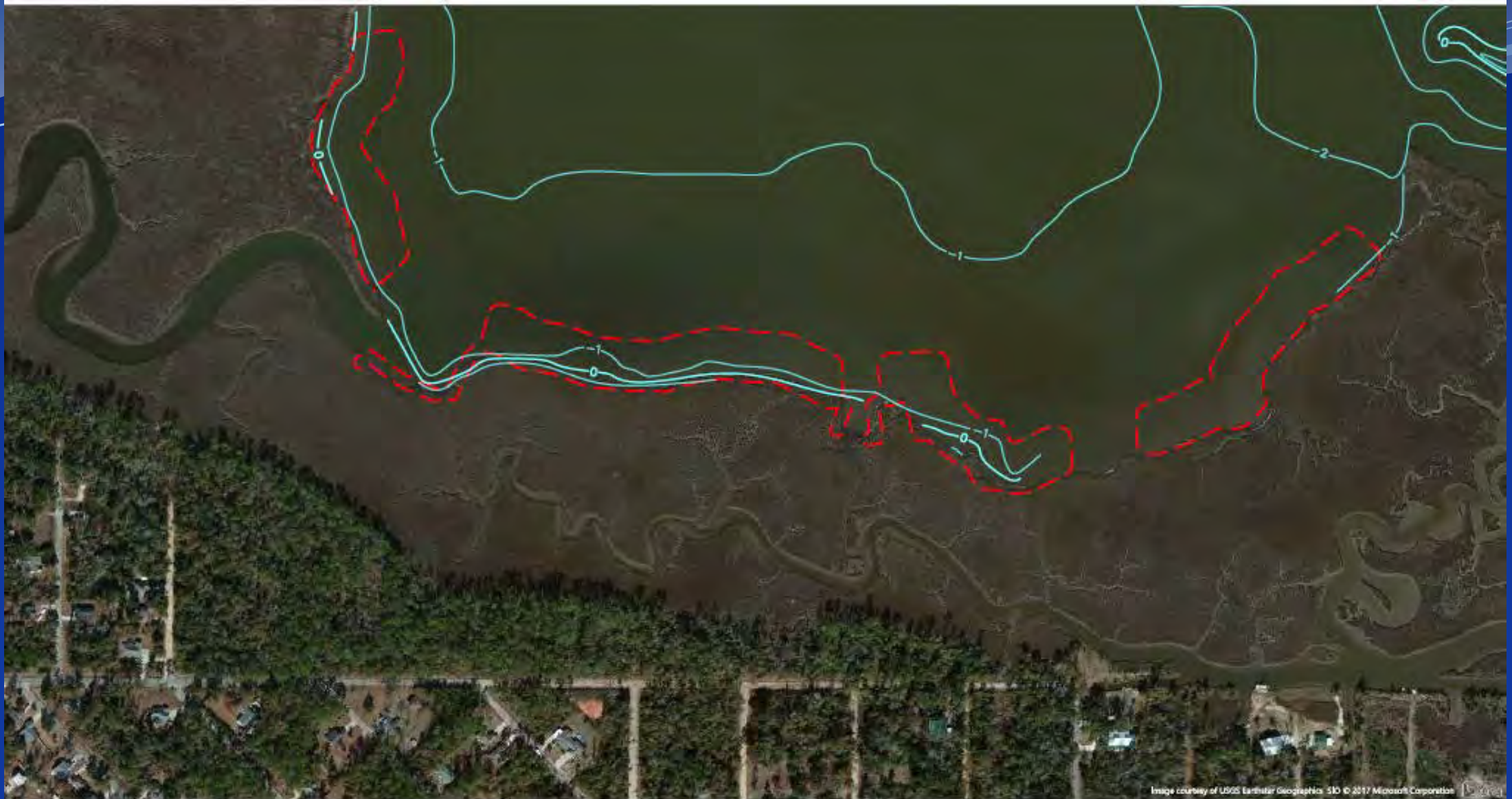
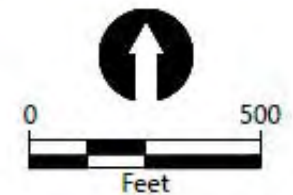


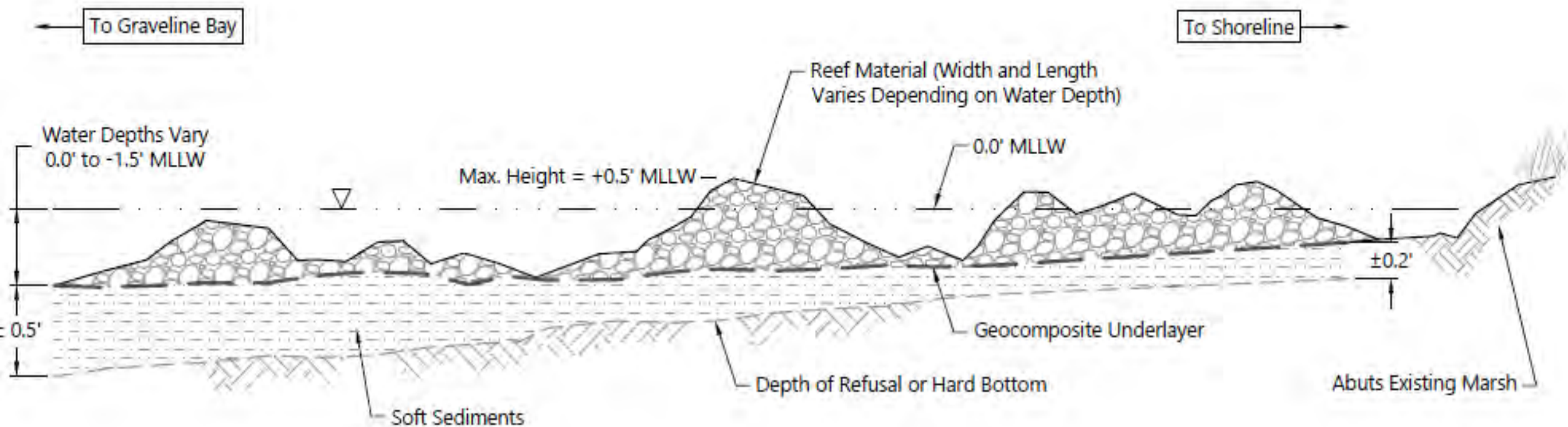
Image courtesy of USGS Earthstar Geographics SIO © 2017 Microsoft Corporation

SOURCE: Aerial image courtesy of USGS Earthstar Geographics SIO © 2017 Microsoft Corporation. Survey provided by DIMCO dated June 28, 2016.
HORIZONTAL DATUM: Mississippi State Plane East, NAD83, U.S. Feet.
VERTICAL DATUM: Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

LEGEND:

- Potential Integrated Intertidal and Subtidal Reef Areas
- Bathymetric Contour in Feet (1' Interval)





Typical Intertidal and Subtidal Reef Detail

Not to Scale

NOTE: Soft sediments will be compressed, displaced, or partially compressed by reef materials, leaving aggregate on the surface for shellfish habitat. Minimal material thickness between ridges.

Project Description

continued

- **The applicant has requested variances:**
 - **Chapter VIII, Section 2, Part III.O.1. of the MCP.**
 - Permanent filling of Coastal Wetlands because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is discouraged.
 - **Miss. Admin. Code Title 22, Part 23, Chapter 8, Section 114.01**
 - Permanent filling of coastal wetlands below the mean high tide line because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is not authorized
- **These variance requests were justified under Ch. VIII, Sect. 2, Part I.E.2.c.i. and Miss. Admin. Code Title 22, Part 23, Chapter 8, Section 118.01**
 - The Impacts on Coastal Wetlands would be no worse than if the guidelines were followed.

Public and Agency Notification

- Notification of this project appeared in *The Sun Herald* on July 21, July 28, and August 4, 2019.
- Two public comments were received.
 - One from an adjacent property owner who did not understand the application that was sent to her for review. MDMR's project manager spoke with her by phone and explained the purpose of the application packet that was sent to her and no further comments were submitted.
 - One member of the public submitted comments in response to this notification. These comments concerned:
 - The water level calculations in the plan are not realistic and will lead to problems both in construction and in the overall success of the reef.
 - The monitoring plan is still inadequate and will not allow a reasonable test of the success of the reef in improving "secondary productivity."
 - Concrete is an objectionable material to use for reef construction in a Coastal Preserve.
 - No provision is made for marking the reef as a navigational hazard
- MDEQ: 401 Water Quality Certification was issued on August 19, 2019
- MDAH: A cultural resources survey should be conducted
- MS SOS: The project will require a rent exempt lease
- MDWFP: No comments to date

Public and Agency Notification

continued

- **MDMR:**

- Coastal Preserves stated, “The Coastal Preserves Bureau has no objections to the Graveline Bay project”, but stated that a request from the applicant for work within the riparian zone of Coastal Preserves would be needed. The approval from the Bureau of Coastal Preserves was provided on August 27, 2019 with the following conditions:
 - Possession of all necessary federal and state permits
 - All activities conducted in compliance with permit conditions
 - The Coastal Preserves office is provided with a final as-built diagram of the project

Recommendation

- Based upon departmental review and evaluation based on the decision factors in Ch. 8, Sect. 2, Part I.E.2. of the MCP, it has been determined that the project will have a significant public benefit. Therefore, staff recommends that the CMR approve the variance request and issue the requested permit with the following conditions:
 - The project area should be re-checked for the presence of SAV during the growing season prior to implementation of the project.
 - The survey report should be submitted to MDMR Wetlands Permitting staff at least 30 days prior to project commencement
 - If SAV is found in the project area, a final review and approval by MDMR staff should be required prior to project commencement
 - A final as-built diagram should be provided to the Bureau of Coastal Preserves within 90 days of construction completion
 - Clearance from MDAH should be provided to the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting prior to commencement of construction



MDEQDHG1 spill Restoration
Chris Wells, Director, Office of Restoration

Why is MDEQ here today?

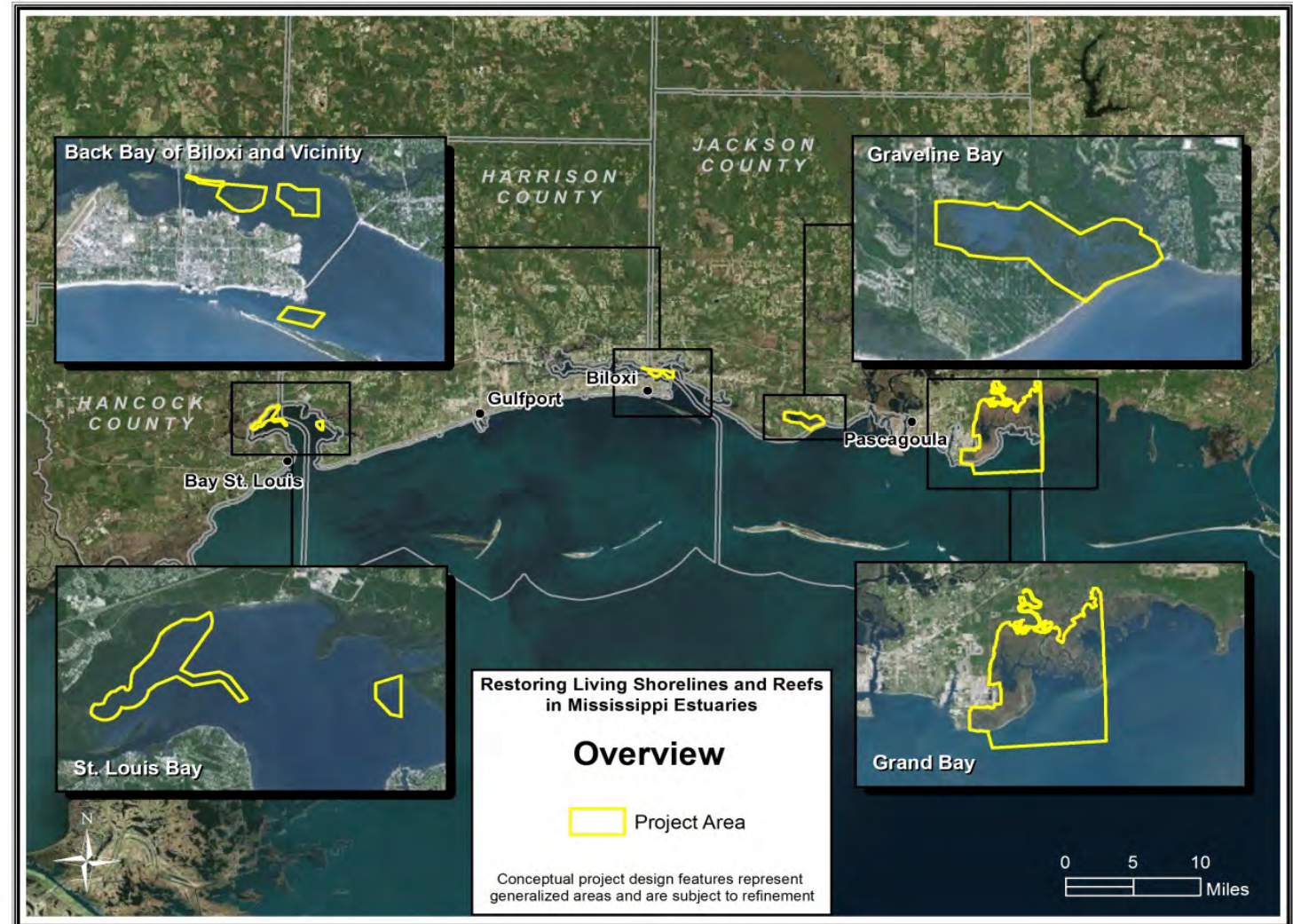
- Seeking a Cooperative Agreement authorizing a Harvest Moratorium for three components of MDEQ NRDA Project “Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries”
 - Grand Bay Intertidal and Subtidal Reefs
 - Graveline Intertidal and Subtidal Reefs
 - Wolf River Living Shoreline and Subtidal Reef
- Seeking a Cooperative Agreement authorizing a Harvest Moratorium for the cultch deployment portion of the NFWF GEBF Oyster Restoration and Management (MS) – Phase I Project.

NRDA Phase IV Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in MS Estuaries Project Purpose

- Purpose: Restoration of lost Benthic Secondary Productivity through the placement of intertidal and subtidal reefs

Scientific Justification and Benefits

- Grand Bay Intertidal and Subtidal Reefs
 - Restricted area
 - Secondary production
- Graveline Intertidal and Subtidal Reefs
 - Restricted area
 - Secondary production
- Wolf River Living Shoreline and Subtidal Reef
 - Prohibited area
 - North East of TNC reef
 - Design to protect and enhance existing shoreline
 - Secondary production



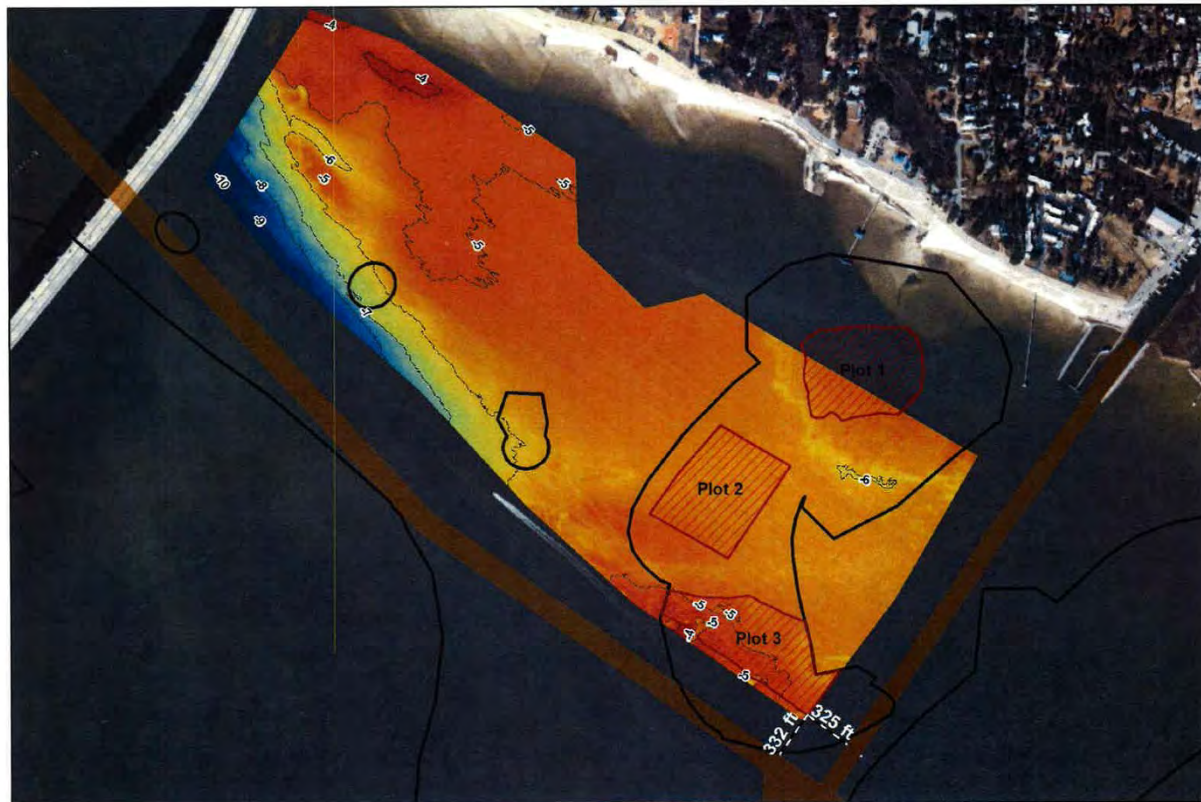
Proposed Cooperative Agreement Between MDEQ, MCMR and MDMR for MDEQ NRDA Project “Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries”

- Per the Consent Decree for the BP settlement, the project requires 5 years of post-construction performance monitoring.
- MDEQ is required to conduct biological monitoring of invertebrate infauna and epifauna biomass.
- To meet the Project Goals and to comply with the project requirements, MDEQ requests reef protection for a minimum of 5 years post construction or until end of monitoring period, which could be extended by no more than 2 years if performance criteria are not met.
- Protection would be achieved through a Harvest Moratorium approved and addressed through a Cooperative Agreement between MCMR, MDMR, and MDEQ.

NFWF GEBF Oyster Restoration and Management (MS) – Phase I Project Purpose

- Purpose: The Experimental Cultch Deployment task of the NFWF GEBF Oyster Restoration and Management project seeks to help understand the comparative success rate of various substrates and reliefs. The task consists of construction of three 10-acre sites, each comprised of two 5-acre sections of crushed concrete and crushed limestone. Each site will have a unique profile—ranging from 4” to >12”—and will receive deployed cultch from a clamshell bucket rather than a water cannon. These sites will then be monitored for recruitment and productivity.

Scientific Justification & Management Benefits

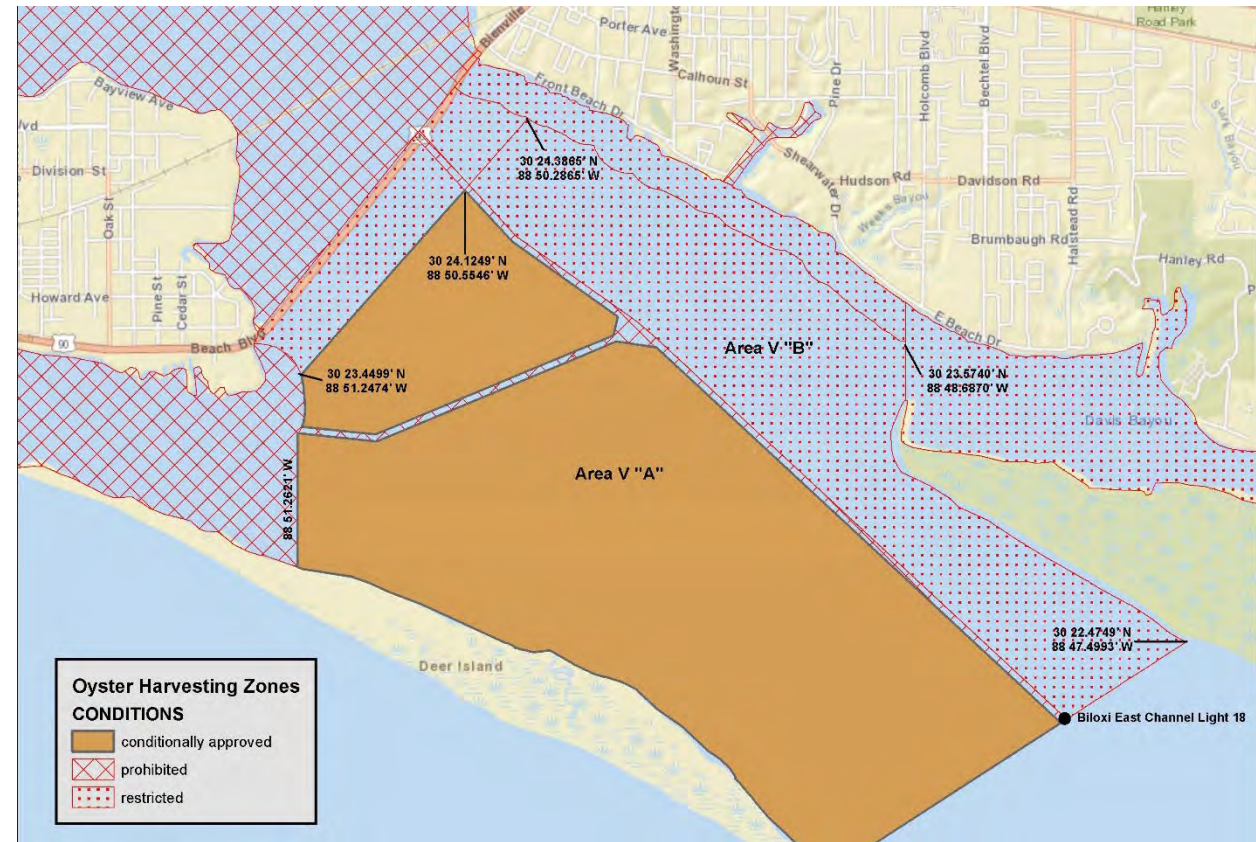


Deployment Areas
 Permit Areas
 Navigation Channels
 Contours (MLLW)

Bathymetry (MLLW in feet)
 -2.94728
 -11.276

0 500 1,000 Feet

Service Layer Credits: Bathymetry products from DEA/EMC; Nautical chart from NOAA; Oyster cultch deployment areas from CCE/MDEQ; ESRI imagery; Permit areas/Bo' Suitability from MDMR



Oyster Harvesting Zones
CONDITIONS
 conditionally approved
 prohibited
 restricted

- Dual material types tested
 - Limestone
 - Concrete
- Both deployed in each plot
- Multiple elevations

Proposed Cooperative Agreement Between MDEQ, MCMR and MDMR for MDEQ NFWF GEBF Oyster Restoration and Management (MS) – Phase I Project

- Per Project Funding Agreement No. #49981, entered into by NFWF and MDEQ, the Project requires monitoring for a period of three years post-construction.
- Project is currently permitted under Permit No. SAM-2015-00644-MJF issued on May 5, 2017 (DMR Permit -090383 issued on June 22, 2016). Modification to allow for up to 18 inches of relief issued on July 18, 2019.
- This project requires monitoring to document persistence of Reef Areal Dimension (m^2), oyster density (live individuals/acre), and Oyster Size-Frequency Distribution (mean % oysters measured/size class) under the Project. MDMR staff will conduct the monitoring with MDEQ providing oversight.
- To ensure successful Project implementation and to provide the data collection and restoration information that the Parties can use in future oyster restoration and management in Mississippi, MDEQ requests Project protection for three years post construction.
- Protection would be achieved through a Harvest Moratorium approved and addressed through a Cooperative Agreement between MCMR, MDMR, and MDEQ.



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Mississippi

Department of Marine Resources

Agency Financial Results

as of September 30, 2019

Commission on Marine Resources

October 15, 2019

Key Metrics:

- State Revenue of \$3.3M
- Agency Revenue of \$4M
- State Net Income of \$1M
- Agency Net Income of (-\$1M)

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Income Statement - Fiscal Year 2020

As of September 30 , 2019

	Federal :		Operating		
	GOMESA PHII:				
	State	NFWF:	Subtotal	Tidelands	Total DMR
Revenue:					
Transfer in from Other Governments	-	-	-	-	-
Off-road Fuel Tax	3,050,000	-	3,050,000	-	3,050,000
Federal/NonFederal Grants	-	550,366	550,366	-	550,366
Sales Revenue	198,924	-	198,924	320	199,244
Indirect Cost Recovery	93,166	-	93,166	-	93,166
Other Revenue	35,531	63,985	99,516	91,575	191,091
Current Budget Year Revenue:	3,377,621	614,351	3,991,972	91,895	4,083,867
Expenditures:					
Salaries, Wages, Fringe	1,268,210	591,309	1,859,519	198,320	2,057,839
Travel	15,454	9,014	24,468	9,533	34,000
Contractual Services	968,195	138,542	1,106,737	171,205	1,277,942
Commodities	100,964	1,045,643	1,146,607	39,617	1,186,225
Other than Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	13,655	-	13,655	2,659	16,314
Vehicles	-	-	-	-	-
Wireless Devices	-	-	-	-	-
Subsidies, Loans, and Grants	4,440	432,568	437,008	144,022	581,030
Current Budget Year Expenditures:	2,370,919	2,217,075	4,587,994	565,357	5,153,350
Current Budget Year Net Income/(Loss):	\$ 1,006,702	\$ (1,602,724)	\$ (596,021)	\$ (473,461)	\$ (1,069,483)

Financial Budget Comparison

- After three months of Fiscal Year 2020:

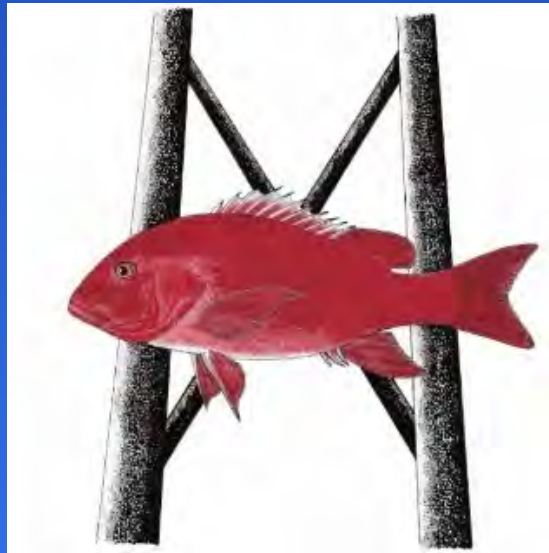
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES									
2020 Budget Comparison									
As of September 30 , 2019									
	Actual Year to Date Expenditures			Budget Year Totals			Percent Remaining		
	Operating	Tidelands	Total	Operating	Tidelands	Total	Operating	Tidelands	Total
Expenditures:									
Salaries, Wages, Fringe	\$ 1,859,519	\$ 198,320	\$ 2,057,839	\$ 8,056,224	\$ 989,526	\$ 9,045,750	76.9%	80.0%	77.3%
Travel	24,468	9,533	34,000	134,225	10,467	144,693	81.8%	8.9%	76.5%
Contractual Services	1,106,737	171,205	1,277,942	5,707,206	1,013,880	6,721,086	80.6%	83.1%	81.0%
Commodities	1,146,607	39,617	1,186,225	3,758,284	397,584	4,155,868	69.5%	90.0%	71.5%
Equipment	13,655	2,659	16,314	615,951	305,326	921,278	97.8%	99.1%	98.2%
Vehicles	-	-	-	45,000	11,431	56,431	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Wireless Devices	-	-	-	6,250		6,250	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Subsidies, Loans, and Grants	437,008	144,022	581,030	31,071,830	6,891,821	37,963,650	98.6%	97.9%	98.5%
Total Expenditures:	\$ 4,587,994	\$ 565,357	\$ 5,153,350	\$ 49,394,971	\$ 9,620,035	\$ 59,015,005	90.7%	94.1%	91.3%

- Operating Funds have 90.7% of Budget remaining
- Tidelands Trust Fund has 94.1% of Budget remaining



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2019 Mississippi Red Snapper Exempted Fishing Permit Final Report



Trevor Moncrief
October 15, 2019

K.1.

Mississippi's Red Snapper EFP

- This year was the second of a two-year Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) which allowed MS to manage Red Snapper from state waters out to 200 nautical miles
- The 2019 allocated allowable catch limit (ACL) was 151,584 pounds for Mississippi's recreational sector
 - 148,507 pound ACL for the private recreational component
 - 2,642 pound ACL for the state for-hire component (2018 overage reduction of 435 pounds)
- Both were managed with an annual catch target (ACT) of 10% below the ACL

2019 EFP Season

- Private Recreational

- May 24th – July 7th
- July 29th – August 25th
- August 31st – September 2nd
- September 6th – 8th

- State For-hire

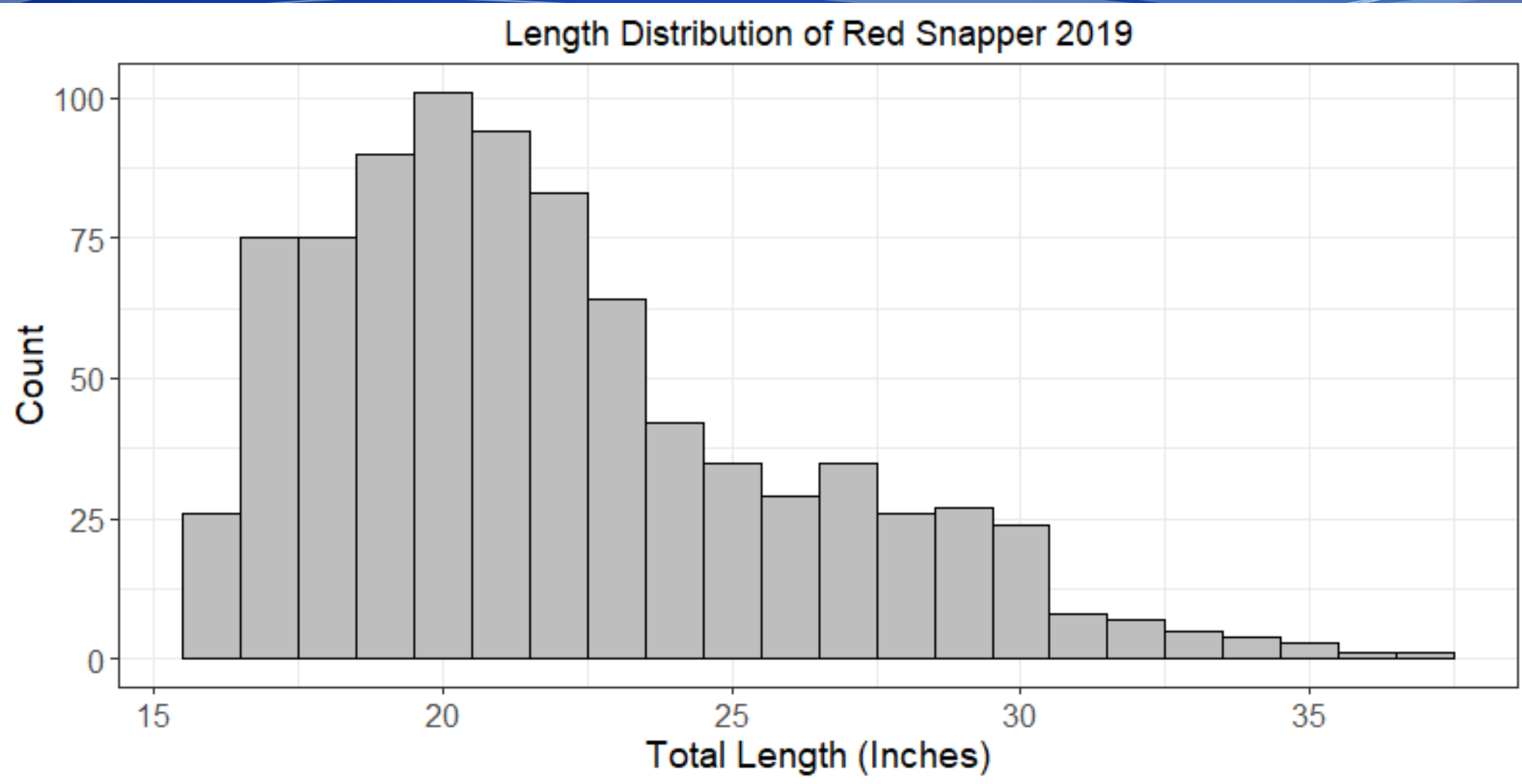
- May 25th – June 10th

Component	Season Length
Private Recreational	79 Days
State For-hire	20 Days
Federal For-hire*	62 Days*

*Federal For-hire season and quota was regulated by NOAA for the 2019 season

Biological Data

- Finfish staff collected over 400 otoliths and 907 lengths/weights from Red Snapper this year
 - Otoliths are currently undergoing processing
- Age data is vital to management of a fishery
 - Length-at-age data are direct inputs into stock assessments
 - Age/length distribution of catch



- 63.6% of all trips designated artificial reefs as the primary habitat fished

2019 EFP Season Results

Component	ACL	Estimated Harvest	Percent of ACL
Private Recreational	148,507	147,748	99.5
State For-hire	2,642	2,531	95.8
Total	151,584	150,279	99.1

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2019 Red Snapper Season Finalized Results

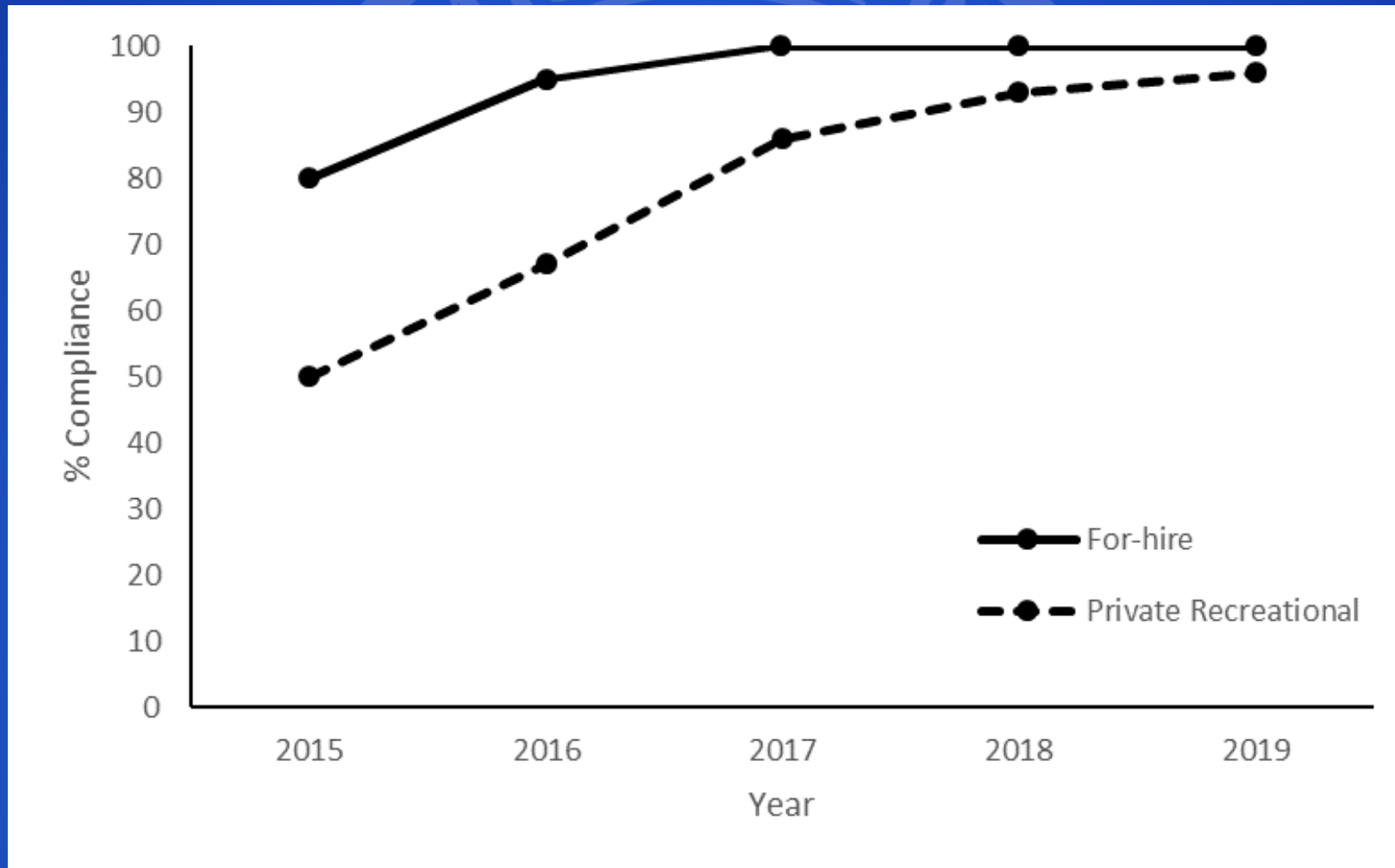
2019 (PR-79 days, SFH-20 days)

- Total Harvest: 150,279
- Number Fish Harvested: 27,125
- Average Weight: 5.54 pounds
- Average Length: 21.32 Inches
- Trips: 5,423
- Effort: 3.80 Anglers/Vessel/Trip
- Harvest: 1.32 Fish/Angler/Trip

2018 (PR-76 days, SFH-17 days)

- Total Harvest: 131,914 pounds
- Number Fish Harvested: 22,126
- Average Weight: 5.82 pounds
- Average Length: 21.37 Inches
- Trips: 4,511
- Effort: 3.74 Anglers/Vessel/Trip
- Harvest: 1.31 Fish/Angler/Trip

Trip Compliance Rates



The background features a large, faint, circular seal of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The seal contains the text "MISSISSIPPI" at the top and "DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES" at the bottom, separated by two stars. The central image of the seal depicts a bird in flight over stylized waves.

QUESTIONS?

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Title 22 Part 7: Commercial Shark Update Notice of Intent

Trevor Moncrief
October 15, 2019

K.2.

Background

- At the September CMR Meeting, the following motion was passed regarding a commercial shark fishery:
 - Motion: For the staff to come back to the October CMR meeting with proposed regulatory changes for a commercial shark fishery to go out for Notice of Intent
- This presentation will outline potential requirements for commercial shark fishery participants and modifications to regulatory language

Requirements

- Establish endorsement to allow commercial shark fishing in state territorial waters (3 miles south of the barrier islands)
 - Purpose - To monitor the number of fishery participants, ensuring all participants attend an approved shark identification/safe handling practices course prior to issuing endorsement
- Potential eligibility requirements:
 - Must be a resident of Mississippi
 - Unknown universe initially/sustainability analyses based on a limited fishery
 - Individuals and vessel(s) engaged in commercial harvest of sharks must be properly licensed
 - Must pass MDMR approved shark identification exam and protected species safe handling workshop
 - Anglers must report species-specific shark landings for federal quota monitoring through Trip Ticket
- Establish open shark season in MS territorial waters to run concurrent with the federal shark season in the Western Gulf of Mexico Sub-Region
 - All landings will be deducted from the established federal quotas

Small and Large Coastal Sharks

Large Coastal Sharks	Status	Length/Bag Limit
Blacktip	Harvest Allowed	37" Total Length
Spinner	Harvest Allowed	
Bull	Harvest Allowed	
Tiger	Harvest Allowed	
Lemon	Harvest Allowed	
Nurse	Harvest Allowed	
Scalloped Hammerhead	Harvest Allowed	
Great Hammerhead	Harvest Allowed	
Smooth Hammerhead	Harvest Allowed	
Sandbar	Prohibited	No Harvest Allowed
Dusky	Prohibited	
Silky	Prohibited	
Bignose	Prohibited	
Narrowtooth	Prohibited	
Galapagos	Prohibited	
Night	Prohibited	
Caribbean Reef	Prohibited	
Sand Tiger	Prohibited	
Bigeye Sand Tiger	Prohibited	
Whale	Prohibited	
Basking	Prohibited	
White	Prohibited	

Small Coastal Sharks	Status	Length/Bag Limit
Atlantic Sharpnose	Harvest Allowed	25" Total Length
Finetooth	Harvest Allowed	
Blacknose	Harvest Allowed	
Bonnethead	Harvest Allowed	
Caribbean Sharpnose	Prohibited	No Harvest Allowed
Smalltail	Prohibited	
Atlantic Angel	Prohibited	

Pelagic Sharks	Status	Length/Bag Limit
Shortfin Mako	Harvest Allowed	37" Total Length
Porbeagle	Harvest Allowed	
Thresher	Harvest Allowed	
Blue	Harvest Allowed	
Oceanic Whitetip	Harvest Allowed	
Longfin Mako	Prohibited	No Harvest Allowed
Bigeye Thresher	Prohibited	
Sevengill	Prohibited	
Sixgill	Prohibited	
Bigeye Sixgill	Prohibited	

Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9

Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 Commercial Size, Possession and Catch Limits

100

100.28 Small Coastal Sharks – twenty-five (25) inches total length

100.29 Large Coastal Sharks – thirty-seven (37) inches total length

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Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9

Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 Commercial Size, Possession and Catch Limits

~~102 The practice of “finning”, that is, removing only the fins and returning the remainder of the shark to the sea is unlawful.~~

~~103~~102 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fishermen to possess any Cobia smaller than thirty-three (33) inches fork length or to possess more than a daily bag limit of two (2) Cobia per person.

~~104~~103 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fisherman, person, firm or corporation, to sell, barter or trade any species of reef fish (identified in Chapter 09 Sections 100.08 through 100.25) without possessing the proper federal permits and/or licenses required by the NOAA Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan and complying with any other conditions set forth by federal or state regulations for the management of the identified reef fish.

~~105~~104 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fisherman, person, firm or corporation, to possess or harvest from Mississippi territorial waters, in excess of three thousand pounds (3,000) of King Mackerel, per vessel, per trip, per day.

~~106~~105 It shall be unlawful for person, firm, or corporation to sell or purchase the following species of billfish without the proper federal documentation: Blue Marlin (*Makaira nigricans*), White Marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*), and Sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*).

Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9

Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 Commercial Size, Possession and Catch Limits

113 Beginning January 1, 2020, any individual or vessel commercially harvesting small coastal or large coastal sharks in Mississippi's territorial waters must possess a MDMR shark endorsement (10.00) in addition to a current applicable harvester license. In addition, all individuals applying for a shark endorsement must be a Mississippi resident and present documentation of the successful completion of a MDMR approved shark identification exam and protected species safe handling workshop. The open season in Mississippi territorial waters for the commercial harvest of sharks shall run concurrent with federal shark seasons for the Western Gulf of Mexico Sub-Region.

113.01 The practice of "finning", that is, removing only the fins and returning the remainder of the shark to the sea is unlawful. All sharks commercially harvested in Mississippi state territorial waters must be landed in whole form with fins naturally attached by at least some portion of uncut skin. Sharks may be gutted prior to landing.

113.02 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess a daily bag limit of more than twenty-five (25) small and large coastal sharks in aggregate per vessel per day.

Required:

A motion to proceed with a Notice of Intent for regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 9 regarding the development of a commercial shark fishery



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Title 22 Part 7: Trotline Regulations Final Adoption

Rick Burris

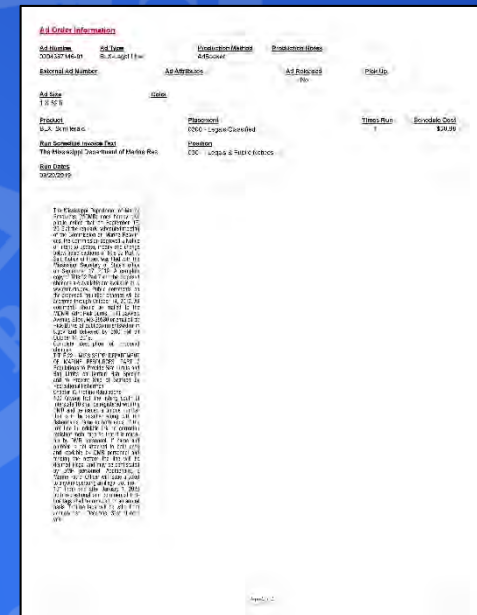
October 15, 2019

K.4.

Background

- At the September 17, 2019 CMR meeting the following motion was passed:
 - **Motion:** To proceed with a Notice of Intent for regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 13 to add Section 101 as recommended by the Gear Type Task Force

Legal Notice Appeared in the
Sun Herald on September 20,
2019



Sun Herald Notice

Public Comments on Title 22 Part 7

- Public comment period: September 18, 2019 through October 14, 2019 – 27 Days.
- To date no public comments have been received.

Title 22 Part 07 Regulations to Provide Size Limits and Bag Limits on Certain Fish Species and to Prevent Sale of Seafood by Recreational Fishermen

Chapter 13 Trotline Regulations

100 Anyone trot line fishing south of Interstate 10 shall be registered with the DMR and be issued a unique number that is to be attached along with the fisherman's name to both ends of the trot line in indelible ink on corrosion resistant metal tags so that it is readable by DMR personnel. If name and number is not attached to both ends and readable by DMR personnel and tending the bottom, the line will be deemed illegal and may be confiscated by DMR personnel. Additionally, a Marine Patrol Officer will issue a ticket to anyone operating an illegal trot line.

101 From and after January 1, 2020 both recreational and commercial trotline tags shall be renewed on an annual basis. Trotline tags will be valid from January 1st – December 31st of each year.

Required:

A motion to proceed with Final Adoption for regulatory changes to Title 22 Part 7 Chapter 13 to add Section 101 as recommended by the Gear Type Task Force



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State Saltwater Finfish Records

Matt Hill
October 15, 2019

K.5.

The background features a large, faint, circular seal of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The seal contains the text "MISSISSIPPI" at the top and "DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a stylized illustration of a fish jumping out of the water.

Youth Division: Conventional Tackle

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Youth Saltwater Fishing Record

★ Atlantic Bumper *Chloroscombrus chrysurus*

Old Record: 3.45 oz.

New Record: 4.52 oz.

Angler: Rinlee Armes

*Also qualifies as All Tackle and Conventional Tackle Record

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Youth Saltwater Fishing Record

★ Hardhead Catfish

Ariopsis felis

Old Record: 1 lb. 12.97 oz.

New Record: 2 lbs. 10.16 oz.

Angler: David Kuehn III



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The background features a large, faint, circular seal of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The seal contains the text "MISSISSIPPI" at the top and "DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES" at the bottom. Inside the seal is an illustration of a bird in flight over waves and a lighthouse.

Required: Motion to Adopt New State Records

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