

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Mississippi For-Hire Task Force Meeting

Date: March 5, 2020

Location: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), 1141 Bayview Ave, Biloxi, MS 39530

In Attendance:

Voting Members (7)	Name
Federally Permitted Multi-passenger/Headboat	Jay Trochesset
Federally Permitted Six-pack	Clarence Seymour (Chairman)
Federally Permitted Six-pack	Mike Foto
Non-Federally Permitted Inshore Six-pack	Sonny Schindler
Non-Federally Permitted Inshore Six-pack	Mark Wright
Non-Federally Permitted Offshore Six-pack	Bryan Cuevas
MDMR Staff Representative	Matt Hill
Non-Voting Members (1)	Name
Non-industry Member	Johnny Marquez

Attendees in Audience:

Chris Barlow, Kyle Johnson, Bill Hancock, Terry Pratt, Mike Adams, Cole Ganey, Dustin Trochesset, Ronnie Daniels, Chance Seymour, Kendall Sauls, William Gryder

Other Attendees:

Paul Mickle, Joe Jewell, Carly Somerset, Trevor Moncrief, Wade Hardy, Katya Jagolta, Courtney Walker, Josh Waters, Chris Spurlin, Eric Gigli

Voting and Non-Voting Members Not in Attendance:

None

Minutes from the February 5, 2019 Meeting of the Mississippi For-Hire Task Force

The Mississippi For-Hire Task Force met March 5, 2020 at 6:00 PM in the 1st Floor Conference Room of the MDMR's Bolton Building in Biloxi.

AGENDA:

A. Call to Order

B. Approval of Minutes

Motion 1: To approve the minutes from the January 2020 meeting

First: Trochesset

Second: Foto

Passed 7-0 Unanimous

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion 2: To approve the agenda as written

First: Trochesset

Second: Foto

Passed 7-0 Unanimous

D. Red Snapper

1) 2020 Season Discussion – Matt Hill

Staff presented summary points from the January meeting and provide pros and cons associated with each topic. The topics included endorsements, reviewing allocation, increasing allocation, setting a number of days for a season, and including state for-hire (SFH) within the private recreational (PR) component. After presenting the information, it was noted the audience that the presentation was meant to provide everyone with an equal understanding of the potential options for the fishery so that a more deliberate discussion of the topic could be had. Discussion amongst the audience, task force members, and staff was conducted after the presentation.

Motion 3: To recommend an endorsement be developed with the cost of \$100 per licensed captain and a designated cut off date of purchase to be February 1st

First: Cuevas

Second: Wright

Passed 5-2 Clarence Seymour and Jay Trochesset opposed

Motion 4: Propose that the quota be switched to a day based fishery that would be weekends only (Friday – Sunday) for entirety of recreational quota season

First: Cuevas

Second: Wright

Failed 3 – 4 Matt Hill, Clarence Seymour, Jay Trochesset, Mike Foto opposed

Motion 5: Based on the growth of the SFH fleet, the SFH fleet should be placed back into the PR component

First: Cuevas

Second: Wright

Withdrawn by 1st and 2nd

Motion 6: to recommend an increase in the SFH quota by 50%. Season would be weekend only (Fri – Sun) concurrent with the PR season.

First: Cuevas

Second: Wright

Passed 4-3 Clarence Seymour, Mike Foto, Jay Trochesset opposed

2) Captain and Crew Limits – Matt Hill

After review of Title 22 Part 7, we have identified that the regulations regarding captain and crew keeping limits of certain species were placed incorrectly. The regulation reflects the rules for two-day bag limits and does not apply to trips outside of the two-day trips. If the task force wishes to pursue these changes, a recommendation in the form of a motion is needed.

Motion 7: To move Red Snapper and Amberjack to disallow captain and crew from keeping their limit and to correct Spotted Seatrout placement

First: Cuevas

Second: Foto

Passed 7-0 Unanimous

E. Other Business

1) For-Hire Reporting Options – Paul Mickle

Mandatory reporting was passed through the Gulf Council nearly two years ago, and once passed; NOAA began developing SEFHIER as the reporting mechanism for the Federal For-hire fleet. This program has been delayed multiple times and is expected to begin September 1, 2020. Once implemented, Federally-permitted captains in Mississippi may be required to report to 4 different surveys/reporting programs.

F. Schedule Next Meeting

Motion 8: To adjourn

First: Seymour

Second: Trochesset

Passed 7-0 Unanimous