

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Gear Type Task Force Meeting

Date: February 26, 2020

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

Members:

Voting Members (8)	Name
Commercial Fisherman	Frank Parker
Commercial Fisherman	Martin Young
Recreational Fisherman	Sonny Schindler
Recreational Fisherman	Johnny Marquez
University Scientist	Read Hendon
University Scientist	Marcus Drymon
NOAA Representative	Jeff Gearhart
Gear Representative	Wendy Taylor
Non-Voting Members (5)	Name
MDMR Scientist	Rick Burris
MDMR Scientist	Matt Hill
Marine Patrol	Bryce Gex
Commissioner	Natalie Guess
Commissioner	Steve Bosarge

Attendees in Audience:

Ryan Bradley

Other Attendees:

Trevor Moncrief, Paul Mickle, Wade Hardy, Jon Barr

Voting and Non-Voting Members Not in Attendance:

Steve Bosarge, Jeff Gearhart (Remote Call-in)

Minutes from the February 26, 2019 Meeting of the Mississippi Gear Type Task Force

The Mississippi Gear Type Task Force met February 26, 2020 at 1:00 PM in the Coastal Resiliency Conference Room in the MDMR's Bolton Building in Biloxi.

AGENDA:

A. Call to Order

B. Approval of Agenda

Motion 1: Motion to modify agenda – add discussion of house and senate bills

Motion made by: Young

Second: Parker

Passed: 8-0 Unanimous

Motion 2: To approve the agenda as modified

First: Parker

Second: Hendon

Passed 8-0 Unanimous

C. Election of Officers (Chairman and Vice-chairman)

1) Chairman nominees

i. Frank Parker – 8-0 Unanimous

ii. Rick Burris – no vote needed

2) Vice chairman nominees

i. Natalie Guess – 8-0 Unanimous

D. Upcoming Legislation discussion

1) The task force discussed house bill (561) and senate bill (2720), and the potential for the group to develop a resolution for the Commission on Marine Resource's (CMR's) consideration.

Motion 3: For the Gear Task Force to develop a resolution for the CMR's consideration in opposition to house bill (561) and senate bill (2720), which ban commercial gear in areas within ½ mile of Cat island including haul seines

Motion made by: Young

Second: Drymon

Passed: 7-0 Unanimous

Notes: Jeff Gearhart recused himself from voting due to regulatory nature of motion

E. Discussion of implementation of best handling practices on the Tails n' Scales App and acquiring release tools for the recreational Red Snapper fleet

- 1) MDMR staff informed the task force of the changes occurring within the Tails n' Scales app and the potential for inclusion of additional materials for the anglers view. Staff also informed the task force of the timeline of development and the time-sensitive requirements of adding any new material within new app builds.

F. Discussion of regulatory options for the commercial hook and line fishery

- 1) MDMR staff informed the task force of the specific charge to which the task force was held. Since this discussion revolved around the commercial fishery and not specifically with a "gear" issue, it could only be a discussion with no recommendations. Staff then presented regulations from states across the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Coast.

G. Other Business

H. Meeting Adjourn

Motion 8: To adjourn

First: Marquez

Second: Burris

Passed 8-0 Unanimous