



January 2022

MDMR's Office of Marine Patrol operates and mans a 24-hour patrol of more than 1,000 square miles of marine waters in Harrison, Hancock and Jackson counties. Officers enforce state laws, conduct boat-and-water safety checks, respond to emergencies in marine waters, provide public assistance and enforce rules and regulations regarding the harvest, transportation, processing and retail and wholesale marketing of fish.

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February 2022

MDMR has developed several programs to increase oyster production on Mississippi's reefs. In 2018, MDMR began the Off-Bottom Oyster Aquaculture Program to teach potential and current commercial oyster farmers all aspects of off-bottom oyster farming on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Off-bottom oyster aquaculture is the cultivation of oysters in containers which are kept above the sea floor.

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			▲ 10:57 PM 2.7 8:26 AM ▼	▲ 11:49 PM 2.2 9:11 AM ▼	▲ 12:12 PM 1.6 9:43 AM ▼	▲ 12:35 AM 1.1 9:45 AM ▼	▲ 3:38 PM 0.1 * 9:39 PM ▼
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6:26 am 5:50 pm	20 ▲ 1:20 AM 0.3 * 7:20 AM ▼	Presidents Day	22	23	24	25	26
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6:22 am 5:53 pm	27 ▲ 7:59 PM 2.9 5:36 AM ▼	28 ▲ 9:11 PM 2.6 6:28 AM ▼				January 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



March 2022

The MDMR's Office of Marine Fisheries manages the species in Mississippi's coastal waters, provides input on habitat restoration and conservation activities and diversifies habitat. The office also promotes quality and safety of Mississippi's seafood products. The programs within Marine Fisheries include Artificial Reef, Finfish, Shellfish, Shrimp and Crab and Seafood Technology.

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13 Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m.	14	Advisory Commission on Marine Resources Meeting	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19
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20 First Day of Spring	21	22	23	24	25	26
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27	28	29	30 Mississippi Public Trust Tidelands Act 33rd Anniversary	31		
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April 2022

The Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) is located at one of the most biologically productive estuaries in the northern Gulf of Mexico region and provides essential nursery habitat for numerous important commercial and recreational fisheries species and absorption of storm surge. The NERR, located in southern Jackson County, Mississippi, is part of a national system of 29 research reserves established to provide opportunities for long-term research, stewardship, education and training.

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	▲ 5:46 PM 1.8 4:08 AM ▼	▲ 7:10 PM 1.6 4:52 AM ▼	▲ 8:40 PM 1.3 5:27 AM ▼	▲ 10:15 PM 1.0 5:51 AM ▼	▲ 6:21 AM 0.3 * 4:28 PM ▼	▲ 11:23 AM 0.6 6:16 PM ▼	▲ 11:06 AM 1.2 7:36 PM ▼
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6:14 am 7:31 pm	24	25 Confederate Memorial Day	26		28 ▲ 12:26 AM 0.1 * 3:46 AM ▼	29	30
	▲ 5:31 PM 2.1 3:49 AM ▼	▲ 7:09 PM 1.5 4:36 AM ▼	▲ 9:27 PM 0.9 5:05 AM ▼	▲ 6:15 AM 0.2 * 5:28 PM ▼	▲ 10:53 AM 0.8 6:47 PM ▼	▲ 10:37 AM 1.3 7:42 PM ▼	▲ 10:47 AM 1.7 8:28 PM ▼



May 2022

Blue crabs have been harvested in Mississippi for hundreds of years. All along the Coast, fishermen seek out this seafood delicacy. Its genus name, Callinectes, is a combination of two Latin words meaning "beautiful swimmer." Its species name, sapidus, means "savory." Blue crabs spend a portion of their lives in the brackish water areas of the Mississippi Sound. MDMR manages the state's crab fishery through regulations and setting of seasons.

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6:04 am	8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14. Migratory Bird Day
7:40 pm	▲ 3:33 PM 1.9 2:12 AM ▼	▲ 4:26 PM 1.6 2:53 AM ▼	▲ 5:35 PM 1.1 3:24 AM ▼	▲ 8:16 PM 0.6 3:40 AM ▼	▲ 10:48 AM 0.4* 3:28 AM ▼ ▲ 10:23 AM 0.5* 5:18 PM ▼	▲ 9:58 AM 1.0 6:17 PM ▼	▲ 9:51 AM 1.7 7:12 PM ▼
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5:56 am 7:49 pm	22	23	24 Mississippi Coastal Preserves Program acquires Deer Island – 20th Anniversary	25 ▲ 10:15 AM 0.4 * 2:02 AM ▼	26	27	28
	▲ 3:41 PM 2.0 2:16 AM ▼	▲ 4:06 PM 1.3 2:54 AM ▼	▲ 12:28 PM 0.6 3:02 AM ▼	▲ 9:53 AM 0.8 6:24 PM ▼	▲ 9:32 AM 1.2 6:52 PM ▼	▲ 9:30 AM 1.7 7:25 PM ▼	▲ 9:45 AM 2.1 7:58 PM ▼
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June 2022

The opening date of Mississippi's shrimp season is established each year by MDMR's Shrimp and Crab Bureau. Fisheries scientists conduct extensive sampling to determine when the majority of brown shrimp in the Mississippi Sound will reach the legal-size requirement of 68-shrimp per pound. The Shrimp and Crab Bureau routinely monitors shrimp populations to protect the future of this valuable fishery. Call the Mississippi Shrimp Information Hotline at 1-866-WE-TRAWL (938-7295) for the latest on shrimp season.

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MDMR's Seafood Marketing Program promotes the sale and use of Mississippi Gulf seafood through marketing efforts for commercial fishing industries, including processors, wholesalers, distributors, packagers and seafood market suppliers. Seafood Marketing also promotes the state's saltwater recreational fishing activities, as well as provides support to chefs across the state to help them market fresh Gulf seafood.

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August 2022

MDMR's Office of Coastal Resources Management maintains healthy habitat and water quality through effective research, planning and monitoring. The office manages the coastal wetland permitting process for Mississippi, ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations. CRM also oversees the state-owned coastal preserves in cooperation with other state and federal agencies.

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6:20 am 7:40 pm	7	8	9 Sportfish Restoration Act – 84th Anniversary	10	11 •	12	13
	▲ 6:32 AM 2.6 5:29 PM ▼	▲ 7:30 AM 3.1 6:23 PM ▼	▲ 8:33 AM 3.3 7:18 PM ▼	▲ 9:37 AM 3.3 8:13 PM ▼	▲ 10:40 AM 3.0 9:06 PM ▼	▲ 11:39 AM 2.5 9:53 PM ▼	▲ 12:36 PM 1.9 10:30 PM ▼
6:24 am 7:35 pm	14	15	16 Advisory Commission on Marine Resources Meeting	17	18	19	20
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6:31 am 7:19 pm	28	29	30 ▲ 3:11 AM 0.1 * 6:38 AM ▼	31		July 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	September 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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September 2022

MDMR constructs in- and off-shore artificial reefs to enhance fishing on the Coast. Currently, Mississippi has eight Rigs-to-Reef sites, 15 permitted off-shore artificial reef sites and 67 in-shore sites. The off-shore sites encompass about 16,000 acres of water bottom. These reefs range in size from 8 acres to 10,000 acres. Materials used for Mississippi offshore reefs include concrete rubble, steel hull vessels, Florida Limestone Pyramids, reef balls and decommissioned oil platforms

	decommissioned oil platforms.								
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
6:32 am 7:17 pm	August 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	October 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1 1 1 1 2 :36 AM 1.0 12:35 PM ▼	2 A 3:04 AM 1.6 2:04 PM ▼	3		
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October 2022

Tidelands are lands that are covered and uncovered daily by water from the action of the tides, up to the mean line of the ordinary high tides. The Tidelands Trust Fund is comprised of funds derived from the lease of tidelands and submerged lands and is administered by MDMR as mandated by state law. The Secretary of State's Office presents the Tidelands check to MDMR officials and legislators each year.

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	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6:34 pm							
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6:26 pm	▲ 12:01 AM 0.3 * 5:46 AM ▼ ▲ 2:07 PM 0.1 * 5:08 PM ▼						
	▲ 11:19 PM 0.5 * 12:17 PM ▼	▲ 11:26 PM 1.2 7:26 AM ▼	▲ 11:50 PM 1.6 8:44 AM ▼	▲ 12:05 PM 1.8 9:53 AM ▼	▲ 12:21 AM 2.0 10:56 AM ▼	▲ 12:55 AM 2.1 11:59 AM ▼	▲ 1:34 AM 2.2 1:03 PM ▼
7:01 am	16	17	18 Advisory Commission on Marine Resources Meeting	19	20	21	22
			Clean Water Act – 50th Anniversary				
6:19 pm	▲ 2:19 AM 2.1 2:04 PM ▼	▲ 3:12 AM 2.0 3:01 PM ▼	▲ 4:15 AM 1.8 3:51 PM ▼	▲ 5:29 AM 1.6 4:33 PM ▼	▲ 6:55 AM 1.3 5:04 PM ▼	▲ 8:28 AM 1.0 5:21 PM ▼	▲ 10:06 AM 0.5 * 5:15 PM ▼ ▲ 11:42 PM 0.2 * 11:01 AM ▼
7:06 am	23	24	25	26	Coastal Zone Management Act –	28	29
	▲ 12:04 PM 0.3 * 4:48 AM ▼ ▲ 10:52 PM 0.3 * 4:30 PM ▼	▲ 10:45 PM 1.0 6:15 AM ▼			50th Anniversary		
6:13 pm	30	31 Halloween					
	▲ 1:44 AM 3.0 1:15 PM ▼	▲ 2:42 AM 2.8 2:22 PM ▼	▲ 10:59 PM 1.5 7:25 AM ▼	▲ 11:28 PM 2.1 8:31 AM ▼	▲ 11:47 AM 2.4 9:39 AM ▼	▲ 12:06 AM 2.7 10:50 AM ▼	▲ 12:51 AM 2.9 12:03 PM ▼



November 2022

MDMR's Office of Coastal Restoration and Resiliency coordinates comprehensive restoration planning with all appropriate agencies, public and private. This office was established by the Mississippi Legislature, and the programs CRR oversees include the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area, Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program and the Geographic Information Systems Unit.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:11 am 6:06 pm			1	2	3	4	5
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6:17 am 5:01 pm	6 Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.	7	8 Election Day	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12
	▲ 9:09 PM 1.2 5:26 AM ▼	▲ 9:23 PM 1.7 6:24 AM ▼	▲ 9:47 PM 2.1 7:14 AM ▼	▲ 10:16 PM 2.3 7:59 AM ▼	▲ 10:48 PM 2.4 8:45 AM ▼	▲ 11:23 PM 2.4 9:32 AM ▼	▲ 11:42 AM 2.4 10:24 AM ▼
6:23 am 4:57 pm	13	14	Advisory Commission on Marine Resources Meeting	16	17	18	19
	▲ 12:02 AM 2.3 11:19 AM ▼	▲ 12:44 AM 2.2 12:12 PM ▼	▲ 1:28 AM 1.9 1:00 PM ▼	▲ 2:13 AM 1.6 1:39 PM ▼	▲ 2:59 AM 1.2 2:04 PM ▼	▲ 3:48 AM 0.8 2:11 PM ▼ ▲ 11:10 PM 0.3 * 8:51 AM ▼	▲ 7:06 AM 0.0 * 3:32 AM ▼ ▲ 9:13 PM 0.4 * 1:42 PM ▼
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December 2022

On May 24, 2002, Deer Island became a part of the Mississippi Coastal Preserves Program, which was developed in 1992 to acquire, protect and manage the state's remaining coastal wetland ecosystems. Coastal Preserves is a joint program of the Department of Marine Resources and the Secretary of State's Office, and its priority is protecting the state's coastal wetland habitats.

STESSED							
NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6:34 am 4:54 pm	November 2022 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1 1 ∆ 2:58 AM 1.0 1:52 PM ▼ ∆ 11:21 PM 0.5 * 1:25 PM ▼	2 ▲ 8:49 PM 0.4 * 12:58 PM ▼	3 1 8:03 PM 0.9 4:49 AM ▼
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	▲ 7:16 PM 0.9 4:42 AM ▼	▲ 7:20 PM 1.6 4:45 AM ▼	▲ 7:46 PM 2.2 5:18 AM ▼	▲ 8:25 PM 2.8 6:03 AM ▼	▲ 9:12 PM 3.3 6:54 AM ▼	▲ 10:04 PM 3.5 7:49 AM ▼	▲ 10:57 PM 3.5 8:48 AM ▼
6:51 am 5:03 pm	25 Christmas ▲ 11:51 PM 3.2 9:48 AM ▼	26 ▲ 12:16 PM 2.9 10:45 AM ▼	27 ▲ 12:41 AM 2.4 11:35 AM ▼	28 ▲ 1:26 AM 1.7 12:08 PM ▼	1:49 AM 0.8 11:58 AM ▼ 3:34 PM 0.3 * 10:17 AM ▼	30 ▲ 6:51 PM 0.4 * 8:36 AM ▼	31 New Year's Eve ▲ 6:26 PM 1.1 4:23 AM ▼

Mississippi Artificial Reef Coordinates*

Upon construction of new reefs, updates will be posted at dmr.ms.gov.

Inshore Reef Sites:

Hancock County:	Latitude	Longitude
American Legion Pier	30° 18.106′ N	89° 19.605′ W
American Legion Launch	30° 17.890′ N	89° 19.800′ W
Cedar Point	30° 20.210′ N	89° 19.540′ W
Ernie Zimmerman Key	30° 15.165′ N	89° 23.126' W
Monroe St	30° 17.050′ N	89° 21.470′ W
Gene Taylor Key	30° 16.345′ N	89° 18.901′ W
Waveland Pier	30° 16.838' N	89° 21.887' W
Waveland Rubble 2	30° 16.847' N	89° 21.882' W
Harrison County:		
marrison County.		
Biloxi Harbor	30° 23.473′ N	88° 52.979′ W
Broadwater Harbor	30° 23.237′ N	88° 58.221′ W
BSL Train Bridge	30° 18.707' N	89° 18.009' W
Courthouse Rd. Pier	30° 22.397′ N	89° 02.537′ W
Deer Island North	30° 22.560′ N	88° 49.924′ W
D'Iberville Bridge	30° 25.353′ N	88° 53.469′ W
D'Iberville Marina	30° 25.386′ N	88° 53.663′ W
East Biloxi Channel	30° 23.162′ N	88° 50.849′ W
Emerald St.	30° 19.538′ N	89° 11.707′ W
Fournier Ave.	30° 21.173′ N	89° 07.024′ W
Goat Island	30° 25.347′ N	88° 54.585′ W
Hewes Ave.	30° 22.218′ N	89° 03.583′ W
Japonica Dr.	30° 19.373′ N	89° 12.400′ W
Jeff Davis Ave. Pier	30° 20.682′ N	89° 08.849′ W
Joe Thornton Hull	30° 23.205′ N	88° 51.627′ W
Katrina Key	30° 21.411′ N	88° 50.369′ W
Keesler Harbor	30° 25.223′ N	88° 55.367′ W
Keesler Rubble	30° 21.772′ N	88° 52.906′ W
Kelly Ave.	30° 22.090′ N	89° 04.192′ W
Kuhn St.	30° 23.476′ N	88° 52.350′ W
Lang Ave.	30° 19.068′ N	89° 13.364′ W
Legacy Towers	30° 22.998′ N	89° 00.201′ W
Libby Milner-Roland Pier	30° 21.585′ N	89° 06.512′ W
Long Beach East	30° 20.583′ N	89° 07.915′ W
Long Beach Harbor Jetty	30° 20.508′ N	89° 08.551′ W
Long Beach Harbor Pier	30° 20.572′ N	89° 08.413′ W
Mellini Point	30° 20.105′ N	89° 17.244′ W
Moses Pier	30° 21.564′ N	89° 05.004′ W
Naval Hospital	30° 22.831′ N	89° 00.994′ W
Old 90 Bridge West	30° 24.168′ N	88° 51.070′ W
Pass Harbor	30° 18.605' N	89° 14.973' W
Pass Key	30° 18.622′ N	89° 13.560' W
South Deer Island Barge	30° 22.576′ N	88° 52.255′ W
Spoil Island South	30° 24.826′ N	88° 51.577′ W
Tegarden	30° 22.565′ N	89° 02.132′ W
Thornton Ave.	30° 21.980′ N	89° 04.592′ W
Urie Pier North	30° 21.559′ N	89° 05.175′ W
Urie Pier South	30° 21.519′ N	89° 05.168′ W
USM	30° 20.832′ N	89° 08.019′ W
	30° 22.298′ N	89° 03.137′ W
VA Hospital	30° 19.640′ N	89° 11.264′ W
Walmart	30 19.040 IV	09 11.204 W

Jackson County:	Latitude	Longitude
Bellefontaine	30° 19.503′ N	88° 43.072′ W
Fort Bayou	30° 25.254' N	88° 51.569' W
Graveline	30° 20.834′ N	88° 40.255′ W
Gulf Park Estates	30° 21.529′ N	88° 46.059′ W
Gulf Park Estates Pier	30° 21.547′ N	88° 45.874′ W
Old 90 Bridge East	30° 24.482' N	88° 50.684' W
OS Community Pier	30° 24.322' N	88° 50.051′ W
OS Harbor Pier	30° 24.139′ N	88° 49.475′ W
OS Pier	30° 24.231' N	88° 49.810' W
Pascagoula Front Beach	30° 20.045′ N	88° 32.230′ W
Pascagoula Municipal Pier	30° 20.435′ N	88° 32.044′ W
Pascagoula River Site 1	30° 22.812′ N	88° 34.131′ W
Pascagoula River Site 3	30° 24.480' N	88° 36.896' W
Pascagoula River Site 4	30° 24.166′ N	88° 36.459' W
Pascagoula West River Mouth	30° 21.872′ N	88° 35.993' W
Round Island Jetty	30° 17.385′ N	88° 35.285′ W
Spoil Island North	30° 25.118′ N	88° 51.343′ W

Offshore Fish Haven Sites:

Site	Latitude	Longitude	Material
FH-1	30° 03.275′ N	88° 36.489' W	Ole Faithful
FH-2	30° 05.170' N	88° 34.434' W	Pyramids
FH-3	30° 09.936' N	88° 45.003′ W	Chevron Vessel
FH-4	30° 10.154′ N	88° 54.008' W	Ship Island Barge
FH-5	30° 10.670′ N	88° 50.215′ W	Colle Barge
FH-6	30° 01.769' N	88° 41.740' W	Reef Balls
FH-7	29° 37.472′ N	88° 23.617' W	Von Rosenberg
FH-8	30° 16.061′ N	88° 57.718' W	Culverts
FH-9/11	30° 15.384′ N	88° 54.186' W	Bay Balls
FH-10	30° 15.971' N	88° 39.964' W	Bay Balls
FH-12	30° 01.517' N	88° 45.899' W	Matthews Barge
FH-13	30° 00.286′ N	88° 29.713' W	Tiger Shark
FH-14	30° 12.402' N	88° 49.844' W	My Wife II
Cat Island	30° 12.185′ N	89 04.895' W	Concrete Culverts
MP 138	29° 20.863′ N	88° 47.598' W	MP 138-B Jacket
MP 132	29° 22.333' N	88° 40.118' W	MP 124 Jacket
MP 185	29° 33.234′ N	88° 22.291' W	MP 185 "Rowan New Orleans"
MP 312	29° 10.808′ N	88° 45.869' W	MP 312 Jacket
MP 290	29° 15.402' N	88° 27.059' W	MP 290 Jacket
MP 280	29° 16.471′ N	88° 12.122' W	Ensco Legs (STB)
SP 62-A	29° 04.779' N	88° 44.625′ W	SP 62-A Jacket
SP 62-B	29° 05.548′ N	88° 43.290' W	SP 62-B Jacket

For a complete list of offshore fish haven sites, visit dmr.ms.gov/artificial-reef/.

30° 22.872′ N

88° 55.572′ W

Whitehouse

^{*} The latitude and longitude coordinates listed are the center points of these inshore reef sites.

^{**} Gene Taylor Key extends into Hancock and Harrison counties

Saltwater Sportfishing in Mississippi Waters

Species	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	
Sheepshead	14" TL	15	
Cobia	36" FL	2	
Flounder	12" TL	10	
Red Drum*	18" TL to 30" TL	3	
Spotted Seatrout	15" TL	15	
King Mackerel	24" FL	3	
Spanish Mackerel	12" FL	15	
Tripletail	18" TL	3	
Greater Amberjack	34" FL	1	
Red & Yellowfin Groupers	20" TL	4 (in grouper aggregate)**	
Yellowmouth, Yellowedge,	No Limit	4 (in grouper aggregate)**	
Misty & Snowy Groupers			
Rock and Red Hind Groupers	No Limit	4 (in grouper aggregate)**	
Scamp	16" TL	4 (in grouper aggregate)**	
Black Grouper	24" TL	4 (in grouper aggregate)**	
Gag Grouper	24" TL	2/person(in grouper aggregate)**	
Warsaw & Speckled	No Limit	1/vessel (in grouper aggregate)**	
Hind Groupers		N. 7.1	
Goliath & Nassau Groupers	No Take	No Take	
Vermilion Snapper	10" TL	20 (in reef fish aggregate)	
Lane Snapper	8" TL	20 (in reef fish aggregate)	
Gray Triggerfish Almaco Jack	15" FL No Limit	1 (in reef fish aggregate)**	
	No Limit	20 (in reef fish aggregate) 20 (in reef fish aggregate)**	
Tilefish (any species) Red Snapper	16" TL	20 (iii reei iisii aggregate)	
Gray & Yellowtail Snapper	12" TL	10 (in snapper aggregate)**	
Mutton Snapper	18" TL	5 (in snapper aggregate)**	
Sharks (Small Coastals)	25" TL	4 (in aggregate)**	
Sharks (Large Coastals &	25 11	1/person	
Pelagics)	37" TL	(max. of 3/vessel)	
Crabs (Hard Shells)	5"(spine to spine)	No Limit	
Crabs (Soft Shells)	No Limit	No Limit	
Lesser Amberjack	14"-22" FL	5 (in aggregate)**	
Banded Rudderfish	14"-22" FL	5 (in aggregate)**	
Tarpon	75″ FL	1/vessel	

^{*}Recreational fishermen may retain only one Red Drum over 30 inches TL

TL = Total Length FL = Fork Length

Fishing licenses

The saltwater sportfishing license is required for all recreational methods of finfish harvest in the coastal and marine waters of the state of Mississippi. (Section 49-15-313, Mississippi Code of 1972). Any person under the age of 16 and residents who are adjudged totally service-connected disabled by the VA or 100 percent disabled through Social Security are exempted from obtaining recreational fishing licenses. For more information, call the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources at 228-374-5000.

NOTE: Fishing seasons for some species may be closed by order of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR). Advance notice of such closures will be given. Please be aware that size and possession limits are subject to change. Please contact the MDMR at 228-374-5000 for the most current limits. Not all fish species are listed.

Recreational fishermen not fishing in Mississippi waters may transport and land fish (except Red Snapper) that meet the minimum size and creel limits of the waters in which they were legally caught. They must possess a valid saltwater sportfishing license as may be required in the waters where the fish were caught.

It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to sell or offer for sale any seafood caught in or landed in the State of Mississippi.

It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to possess fish with heads, tails or flesh removed until delivered to the final destination; however, fish may be eviscerated, scaled or have gills removed. Charter and recreational boats, fishing in the Gulf of Mexico over 24 continuous hours, may possess filleted fish in Mississippi waters, if they have filed a float plan with the MDMR in advance. For the purpose of the float plan, Chapter 5 Section 100 after Title 22 Part 7 says that any charter or recreational fishing boat fishing outside Mississippi waters in the Gulf of Mexico over 24 hours that has filed a float plan may possess filleted fish in Mississippi waters.

All private and for-hire vessels landing Red Snapper in Mississippi must use the Tails 'n Scales electronic reporting system regardless of harvest area (federal waters, Mississippi waters and adjacent states' waters. Go to tailsnscales.org for more information).

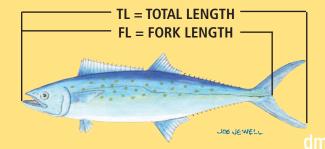
This is an abstract of the rules and regulations in effect at the time of printing. Fishermen are responsible for obeying fishing rules in full. Complete laws are available at the website or at the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530.

For more information, call MDMR at 228-374-5000 or visit dmr.ms.gov.

The line dividing state and federal waters is 3 nautical miles south of the barrier islands except for reef fish, which is 9 nautical miles.

Federal regulations may differ from state regulations. For federal regulations, contact the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council at 1-888-833-1844 or visit gulfcouncil.org.

How to Measure Your Fish



^{**}i.e., any combination in group

Mississippi Saltwater Sportfishing Records

See our website for the latest records at dmr.ms.gov.

The following fish records were among those approved in 2021 by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources:



Ladyfish 2 pounds, 9.6 ounces; conventional Set by Riley Armes, 10, of Pass Christian (youth)



Almaco Jack 36 pounds, 3.2 ounces; spear Set by Dyllan Camplejohn of Ocean Springs



Red Snapper 19 pounds, 1 ounce; conventional Set by Mason Watts, 12, of Long Beach (youth)



Shark Sucker 3 pounds, 4.8 ounces; fly Doug Borries of Ocean Springs

Mississippi Sportfishing Record Rules

To qualify for saltwater fishing record consideration anglers must submit a legible and complete official application that may be obtained from the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) or the MDMR website:

- 1. Below is a list of categories for which applicants must abide by for potential record consideration:
 - a. Conventional Records: Fish must be caught and landed in a sporting manner and in accordance with Mississippi and Federal fishing laws. Only fish caught using conventional fishing tackle (e.g. rod, reel and line or pole and line) and hooked with any legal hook or lure will be considered.
 - MDMR does not recognize separate line classes
 - b. Fly Fishing Records: Fish must be caught in accordance with the normal customs and generally accepted practices of fly fishing and by use of conventional fly fishing tackle. The fly must be a recognized type of artificial fly (e.g. streamer, tube fly, wet fly, dry fly, emerger, nymph, terrestrial, popper, etc.). Treble hooks, lures designed to entangle, snagging, using any other lure or natural bait either singularly or attached to the fly is prohibited. The fly must be submitted with the application and becomes the property of the MDMR.
 - c. All Tackle Records: Fish must be caught with a legal recreational method of take and will be approved by the MDMR Executive Director.
- 2. Two color photographs should be submitted with each application:
 - c. One of angler and fish
 - d. One showing a clear, close-up side view of the fish.
 - Photos become property of the MDMR with publication rights.
- 3. Fish must be weighed on scales that have been certified annually for accuracy by state or federal government agencies or other qualified and accredited organizations, as approved by the MDMR. The weighing must take place within 7 days of the date of capture and in the presence of two witnesses other than the applicant, who must sign and date the application or a separate statement attesting that

- they witnessed the official weight. The actual weight of the fish at the time of the weighing will be the official weight (i.e. no provisions for weight loss will be allowed). Witnesses to the weight and catch shall not be the same persons. Official fishing rodeo and tournament weights on certified scales will be accepted. Proof of certification must be made available to the MDMR upon request. Applications must be submitted within 30 days of the date of capture.
- 4. Length of the fish must be measured in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail and from the tip of the snout (or tip of the lower jaw for billfish) to the fork of the tail.
- 5. Girth of the fish will be measured around the thickest portion of the body (see diagram).
- 6. Species must be identified and verified by a Professional Fisheries Biologist (e.g. a biologist from the MDMR or Gulf Coast Research Laboratory).
- 7. If fishing from a vessel, only vessels leaving from and landing at a Mississippi (MS) port will be considered. Also, a vessel cannot enter any other state's port or harbor before landing in Mississippi unless for refueling or emergencies.
- 8. A valid Mississippi fishing license is required for all state record applications. Passengers aboard licensed and certified For-Hire vessels are also eliqible.
- 9. The MDMR State Record Review Committee reserves the right to further validate applications, authenticate fish identification, verify witnesses and to refuse any application that is deemed questionable. Decisions will be based on the letter and intent of our record rules and fishing regulations. It will be considered "Just Cause" for disqualification of current application and any previous records established by anyone who knowingly falsifies a Record Application. All rules will be strictly adhered to. The decision of the State Record Review Committee and the MDMR will be final

Boating in Mississippi Waters

Boating Equipment Checklist*

	PWC**	Boat less than 16 ft.	Boat 16 ft. to less than 26 ft.
Boater Education Certificate	√ 1	√ 1	√ 1
Certificate of Number Onboard	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Validation Decals Displayed	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
PFDs: Type I, II, III or V	√ 2	√3	√3
PFD: Type IV			\checkmark
Ignition Safety Switch	√ 4		
Type B-1 Fire Extinguisher	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Backfire Flame Arrestor	$\sqrt{}$	√ 5	√ 5
Ventilation System	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Muffler	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Horn, Whistle or Bell	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Visual Distress Signals	7	√ 6	$\sqrt{}$
Navigation Lights	7	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Closed Trash Container	√ 4	√ 4	√ 4

^{*}For boats 26 ft. in length and greater, call MDMR Boat and Water Safety at 228-523-4134

- 1. Applicable if operator is born after June 30, 1980.
- 2. Those on PWC or being towed by a PWC must wear a Type I, II or III personal flotation device (PFD) at all times.
- 3. Those under the age of 12 must wear a PFD at all times when underway in a vessel under 26 ft. in length.
- 4. If operating on marine waters—south of Interstate 10 (I-10).
- 5. Required on inboard and stern drives only.
- 6. When boating after sunset.
- 7. It is strongly recommended that PWC are not operated after dark. However, if a PWC is operated at night, it has the same requirements for visual distress signals and navigation lights as other vessels.

SOURCE: The Handbook of Mississippi Boating Laws and Responsibilities, 2002 Edition.

For boating emergencies or to report fishing violations:

Department of Mississippi Marine Patrol, 1-844-WE-R-MDMR (1-844-937-6367)

Marine Patrol Nationwide, 228-523-4134 Coast Guard Gulfport Station, 228-868-3743 Coast Guard Pascagoula Station, 228-769-5601

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, 1-800-BE SMART

Emergency Distress and Calling Frequency: Channel 16 VHF

Weather Reports: 162.40MHz

For marine mammal or sea turtle strandings:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 228-374-5000

NOAA Fisheries Service, 228-762-4591 or 978-281-9351

The Stranding Network, 1-888-SOS-DOLPHIN (888-767-3657)

Manatee Sighting Network, 1-866-493-5803

Filing a Float Plan

Before going out on a vessel, it is always a good idea to leave a float plan with a local marina, relative or friend. A float plan should:

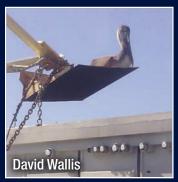
- Describe the vessel, its number, size, make, capacity, horsepower and type of engine.
- List where you are going, the route and your expected return time.
- Give the number of passengers, their names and addresses, and a contact in case of an emergency.

^{**}Personal watercraft (PWC)





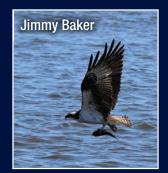


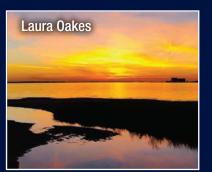




























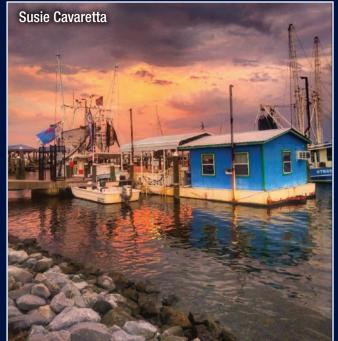






















MDMR STAFF PHOTOS

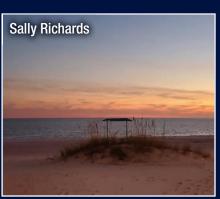


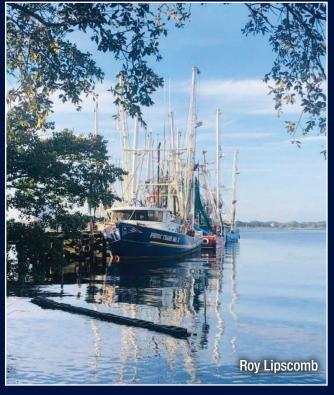












About the Department of Marine Resources

The Gulf Coast is home to some of the nation's most productive shellfish and finfish waters and their supporting coastal wetlands. It also is rich in natural resources on which many generations have depended for their livelihoods. Our coastal resources have not only sustained a growing economy, but have contributed greatly to the culture and heritage that define the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), created by the Legislature as a new state agency in 1994, manages our coastal resources with guidance from the Advisory Commission on Marine Resources. The MDMR is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving the marine interests

of Mississippi for present and future generations. It manages all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas for the long-term recreational, educational, commercial and economic benefit of everyone.

The MDMR and the Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources play an important role in administering Mississippi Seafood Laws, the Mississippi Coastal Wetlands Protection Act, the Public Trust Tidelands Act, the Boat and Water Safety Act, the Derelict Vessel Act, the Clean Water Act and the Non-Point Source Pollution Program, the Coastal Zone Management Act and the Mississippi Coastal Program, the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Wallop-Breaux Sport Fish Restoration Act, Marine Litter Act and other state and federal mandates.



Mississippi Department of Marine Resources



State of Mississippi
The Honorable Tate Reeves, Governor

Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources

Ronnie Daniels, Chairman *Harrison County*

Charter Boat Operators

Natalie Guess, Vice Chairman Hancock County **Nonprofit Environmental Organizations**

Cammack (Cam) A. Roberds

Recreational Sports Fishermen

Jackson County

Commercial Fishermen

Jackson County

Vacant

Commercial Seafood Processors

Vacant Harrison County

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director

A Message From Our Executive Director



The 2022 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Marine Information Calendar highlights the work of our agency through photographs. We appreciate everyone who takes part in our annual photo contest for the calendar, and we look forward to seeing these photos each year. These photographs show Coast residents how our marine resources are protected every day.

The calendar also includes a wealth of information, such as tidal ranges, sunrise/sunset times, moon phases and holidays, as well as reef locations, sportfishing records and boating safety tips.

We hope residents and tourists of the Mississippi Gulf Coast enjoy the calendar and use it daily as a reminder of the beauty of this area and the many marine resources we are so fortunate to have.

Joe Spraggins

Executive Director

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources



Tate Reeves
GOVERNOR



Delbert Hosemann LT. GOVERNOR



Michael Watson SECRETARY OF STATE



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Shad White STATE AUDITOR



David McRae STATE TREASURER



Andy Gipson
COMMISSIONER OF
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE



Mike Chaney
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE



Philip Gunn
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE



ENHANCE ★ **PROTECT** ★ **CONSERVE**



DISCLAIMER: This product is intended for use solely as a guide to Mississippi saltwater fishing. It is not intended for navigational use and is not an official source of the laws and regulations pertaining to the marine resources of Mississippi. This agency makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this document. A copy of applicable laws and regulations is available at the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530.



