

TITLE 22 – MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

**PART 2 RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SHRIMPING
IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

CHAPTER 01 INTRODUCTION

Rule 1.1 This Part provides for the regulation of the commercial and recreational shrimp fishery.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

CHAPTER 02 DEFINITIONS

Rule 2.1 Definitions

A. BIB OR TONGUE – An extension of the middle section of the upper part of the net with a triangular piece of webbing. The bib or tongue requires additional line(s), other than the lines attached to the trawl boards, which run from the bridle or boat to the bib or tongue.

B. FOOTROPE – Leadline, footline, groundrope or that lower part of the trawl that the webbing is first attached, that also provides for the weighing down of the trawl by means of lead weights, chain or other means.

C. HEADROPE – Corkline, headline, floatline or that upper part of the trawl that the webbing is first attached, that also provides flotation by means of corks, floats or other means.

D. PUSH TRAWL – A trawl that is spread by poles suspended in a "V" configuration from the bow of the trawler.

E. SIAMESE TRAWL – A trawl that has two tongues one on the headrope and one on the footrope at or near the center of the net which requires additional line(s), other than the lines attached to the trawl boards, which run from the bridle, outrigger or boat to the tongues.

F. SKIMMER TRAWL – A trawl that extends from the outrigger of a vessel with a cable and a lead weight holding the trawl mouth open.

G. WING NET (BUTTERFLY TRAWL) – A trawl with a rigid frame holding open the trawl mouth rather than using trawl doors.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

CHAPTER 03 CLOSURE AREAS

Rule 3.1 Any person, licensed live bait dealers, licensed live bait shrimpers and licensed commercial shrimpers shall be allowed to take shrimp with cast nets or brille nets not exceeding

twelve (12) feet (maximum radius or length) in the bays of Bay St. Louis, Biloxi and Pascagoula with a cast net or brille net but shall not take more than fifty (50) pounds (heads-on) of shrimp per person per day. It shall be unlawful for any persons using said nets to remove the heads of the shrimp on site.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 3.2 Commercial and recreational shrimping in Mississippi territorial waters with any type of trawl shall be limited to those areas and seasons defined in Miss. Code Ann. § 49-15-64.1.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304, 49-15-307, 36 CFR 1.2, 36 CFR 2.3, 40 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 3, R. 3. 1., 16 U.S.C.A 459h and 33 CFR 2.22.

Rule 3.3 It shall be unlawful to use any trawl within one mile of the Gulf Islands National Seashore islands of Petit Bois, Horn and Ship islands.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304, 49-15-307, 36 CFR 1.2, 36 CFR 2.3, 40 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 3, R. 3. 1., 16 U.S.C.A 459h and 33 CFR 2.22.

CHAPTER 04 GEAR REGULATIONS

Rule 4.1 Except for a test or try trawl, it shall be unlawful for any boat or vessel to use more than two (2) trawls provided that when two (2) trawls are used such trawls shall not exceed a length of twenty-five (25) feet on the headrope and thirty-two (32) feet on the footrope for each trawl and the trawl doors shall not exceed eight (8) feet in length and forty three (43) inches in height when employed in the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi north of a line beginning at a point on the Louisiana-Mississippi border due south of the Intracoastal Waterway Grand Island Channel "LIGHT 1" (F1 G 4 Sec 17ft 3M), at the intersection of Grand Island Channel and Marianne Channel; thence running due north to said "LIGHT 1" thence northeasterly, along the Marianne Channel, through "Buoy 22", "LIGHT 18" (F1 R 4 Sec 17ft 3M), "Buoy 12", to "LIGHT 8" (F1 R 4 Sec 17ft 3M); thence northeasterly along, the most direct line, to "Light Buoy 7" (F1 G 6 Sec 4M); thence east-northeasterly, along the most direct line, to "CAT ISLAND WEST END CHANNEL LIGHT" (F1 W 4 Sec 30ft 5M), located approximately 2.2 miles due west of Cat Island; thence easterly, along the most direct line, to the westernmost point of Cat Island; thence running northeasterly, following the northern shore, to the northeastern-most point of Cat Island; thence southeasterly, along the most direct line, to the westernmost point of West Ship Island; thence easterly, following the northern shore, to the easternmost point of West Ship Island; thence easterly along the most direct line, to the westernmost point of East Ship Island; thence easterly following the northern shore to the easternmost point of East Ship Island; thence easterly, along the most direct line, to the westernmost point of Horn Island, thence easterly, following the northern shore, to the easternmost point of Horn Island; thence easterly, along the most direct line, to the westernmost point of Petit Bois Island; thence easterly, following the northern shore, to the easternmost point of Petit Bois Island; thence due east to a point on the Mississippi-Alabama border. This regulation shall not apply to the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi south of the line described herein.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304, and 49-15-307.

Rule 4.2 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use any single trawl for the catching or taking of shrimp in the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi north of the line described in Rule 4.1 of this Part with a measurement of more than fifty (50) feet along the headrope or more than sixty (60) feet along the footrope, continuous measurement. In addition to the aforesaid measurements, the wings of push-nets (trawls kept open by rigid supports or poles and pushed from behind) shall be secured to the rigid, supports or poles for a distance not to exceed twenty-four (24) feet on each side.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 4.3 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to use skimmer trawls, wing nets (butterfly nets), Siamese trawls or any like contrivance which is in excess of twenty-five (25) feet on the headrope and thirty-two (32) feet on the footrope for each trawl when employed in the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 4.4 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to use any test or try trawl for the catching or taking of shrimp in the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi north of the line described in Rule 4.1 of this Part with a measurement of more than twelve (12) feet along the headrope or more than fifteen (15) feet along the footrope, or used with boards or doors more than thirty (30) inches in length.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 4.5 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to catch or take with a trawl, attempt to catch or take with a trawl, or to possess any shrimp taken with a trawl from the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi that are closed to shrimping by order of the MDMR or by state statute, provided, however, that this chapter shall not apply to shrimp caught legally by licensed live bait catcher boats in areas opened to live bait shrimping or any person catching shrimp with a cast or brille net.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 4.6 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to drag, or pull a trawl or try net under the water with the bag tied or untied in any area of the territorial waters of the State of Mississippi which are closed to shrimping.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 4.7 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to drag, or pull double or multiple rigs under the water with the bags tied or untied in any area of the territorial waters of the State of Mississippi which are closed to the use of double rigs, or in waters which are closed

to the use of that size, type or number of rigs.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-64.2, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

CHAPTER 05 DETERMINING LEGAL SHRIMP SIZE

Rule 5.1 For enforcement purposes, in determining the legal size of shrimp, three (3) pounds of shrimp with the heads on shall be taken at random from the deck of each boat or vessel. Said three (3) pounds of shrimp shall be counted and the number of shrimp shall be divided by three (3). In the event the result totals more than sixty-eight (68), the entire catch shall be forfeited to the State of Mississippi and the operator of said boat or vessel shall be in violation of § 49-15-63 of the Mississippi Code Ann. of 1972, as amended.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-63, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

CHAPTER 06 PENALTIES

Rule 6.1 Any person, firm, or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Part shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be penalized in accordance with § 49-15-63 of the Mississippi Code Ann. of 1972, as amended. Violations of more than one chapter or subsection of this Part, or parts thereof, shall be considered separate offenses and punished as such.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-63, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

CHAPTER 07 CHAPTERS AND SUBCHAPTERS DECLARED SEPERABLE

Rule 7.1 Each chapter and subchapter of this Part is hereby declared separable, and if any chapter or subchapter or part thereof shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the balance of said Title 22 Part 02 shall remain in full force and effect.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-63, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.

Rule 7.2 Violations of more than one chapter or subchapter of this Part or part thereof shall be considered separate offenses and punished as such.

MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 49-15-15, 49-15-63, 49-15-64.1, 49-15-303, 49-15-304 and 49-15-307.