

NEWS RELEASE

MS Dept. of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi 39530



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Charmaine Schmermund
Phone: 228-218-4260

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MDMR to accept proposals for On-Bottom Molluscan Shellfish Leases

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) announces the recent update of its on-bottom shellfish regulations following the passage of Senate Bill 2544 during the Mississippi Legislature 2023 Regular Session. These revised regulations will enable private individuals or businesses to lease previously unavailable water bottoms, fostering a sustainable and supportive framework for shellfish production in Mississippi while ensuring environmental and conservation compliance.

Following the guidance of the Mississippi Advisory Commission of Marine Resources and the approval of MDMR Executive Director Joe Spraggins, the MDMR will begin the "Request for Proposals" process where interested parties may apply for On-Bottom Molluscan Shellfish Leases. The application period will open on Friday, July 21, 2023, at 8 a.m. and close on Friday, Aug. 4, 2023, at 4 p.m.

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the updated regulations, interested parties are encouraged to review the detailed summary available on the official MDMR website at dmr.ms.gov. The summary provides information on application requirements, lease conditions, cultivation guidelines and the review process.

For additional inquiries or further information, please contact MDMR Shellfish Bureau Director Jason Rider at 228-523-4037 or via email at oyster@dmr.ms.gov.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at dmr.ms.gov.

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