



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources

December 17, 2024



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Employment, Contracts and Procurement Updates December 17, 2024

Employment Updates

New Hires:

- Tonnor Segree – Started December 2, 2024 – Law Enforcement Office I – Office of Marine Patrol
- Evan Tilley – Started December 2, 2024 – Law Enforcement Officer I – Office of Marine Patrol

Contracts and Procurements for November 2024

Service Contracts					
<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Procurement Method</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Commodity/Service Description</u>
C. H. Fenstermaker & Associates, LLC	Invitation for Bids	\$346,870.00	12 months	GOMESA	Marine Archaeological Resource Assessment Report



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Actions Update for December 17, 2024 Commission Meeting

Discussed at the November 2024 meeting:

The Commission recommended and the Director approved the following motions:

- For a permit requested by the MDEQ for the filling of coastal wetlands for the construction of a submerged artificial near Buccaneer State Park, a motion to:
 - (1) Approve the requested Variance; (2) Approve the requested Use Plan Change; (3) Approve the Permit as requested; and (4) Condition the Permit to contain the following:
 - a. Submission of adaptive management plan to be reviewed by MDMR staff prior to construction;
 - b. Coordination with US Coast Guard for necessary navigational aids at project location;
 - c. The project area should be inspected for the presence of SAV during the growing season prior to implementation of the project. The survey report should be submitted to MDMR Wetlands Permitting staff at least 30 days prior to project commencement. If SAV is found in the project area, a final review and approval by MDMR staff should be required prior to project commencement.

- Motion to recommend approval of the following State Saltwater Finfish Records:

- a. Conventional Tackle:

- 1. Atlantic Stingray (*Dasyatis sabina*) – 8 lbs. 3.68 oz.
– Jawaun Walton

- b. Youth Conventional Tackle:

- 1. Atlantic Sharpnose Shark (*Rhizoprionodon terraenovae*) – 11 lbs. 0.64 oz.
– Rodie Armes
 - 2. Northern Kingfish (*Menticirrhus saxatallis*) – 0 lbs. 6.08 oz.
– Cooper Wrightson



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Pathways 2 Possibilities





Bays & Bayous Symposium





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2024 Oyster Season Update

Jason Rider
Shellfish Bureau Director

K.1.

2024 November Season Update

- **Season Dates**
 - 10 days November 13th – 26th
- **Location**
 - Western Reefs
 - All Permitted Areas in the Western MS Sound
- **Gear Type**
 - Tongs
 - Dredges
- **Daily Harvest Quota:**
 - 10 sacks per boat/per day



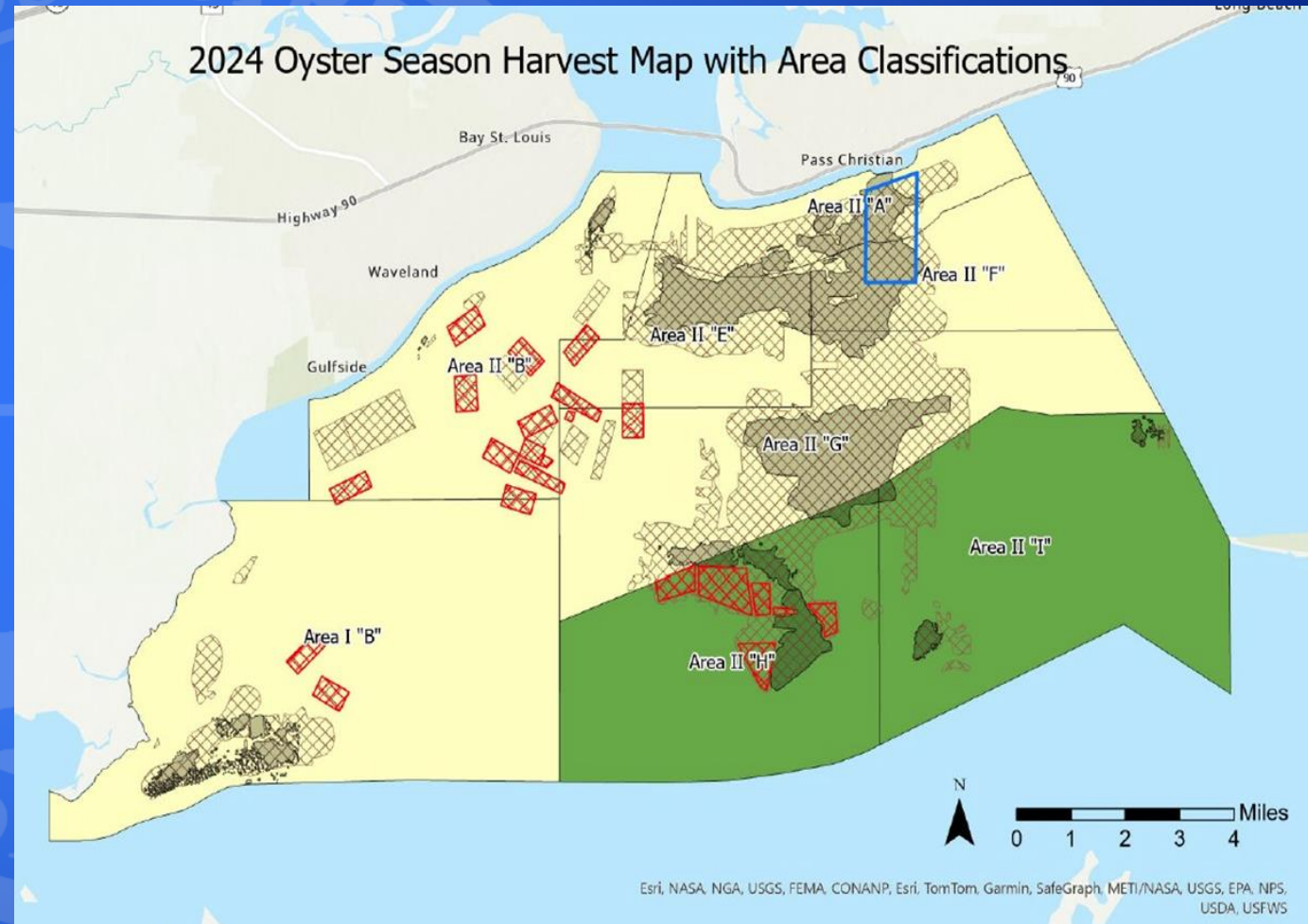
November Summary

- Season Sack Harvested:	711
- Average Sacks per Day:	64
- Total Licenses sold to date:	101
Recreational	5
In State Commercial Dredge:	62
In State Commercial Tong:	24
Out of State Tong:	9
Out of State Dredge:	1
- Number of Licenses harvesting:	20
- Approx Tongers per Day:	6
- Approx Dredgers per Day:	3
- Main Area Fished:	2A and 2F



November Summary

- 79.91% of the total harvest came from Areas 2A and 2F (Tonging Box)
- Harvesters observed dense clusters of oysters with significant variation in size classes.
- Harvesters were able to reach their daily quotas with moderate effort, though culling was necessary.



2024 December Season

- **Season Dates**

- Season opened on Dec 9th
- Closed on Dec 13th

- **Location**

- Western Reefs
- All Permitted Areas in the Western MS Sound

- **Gear Type**

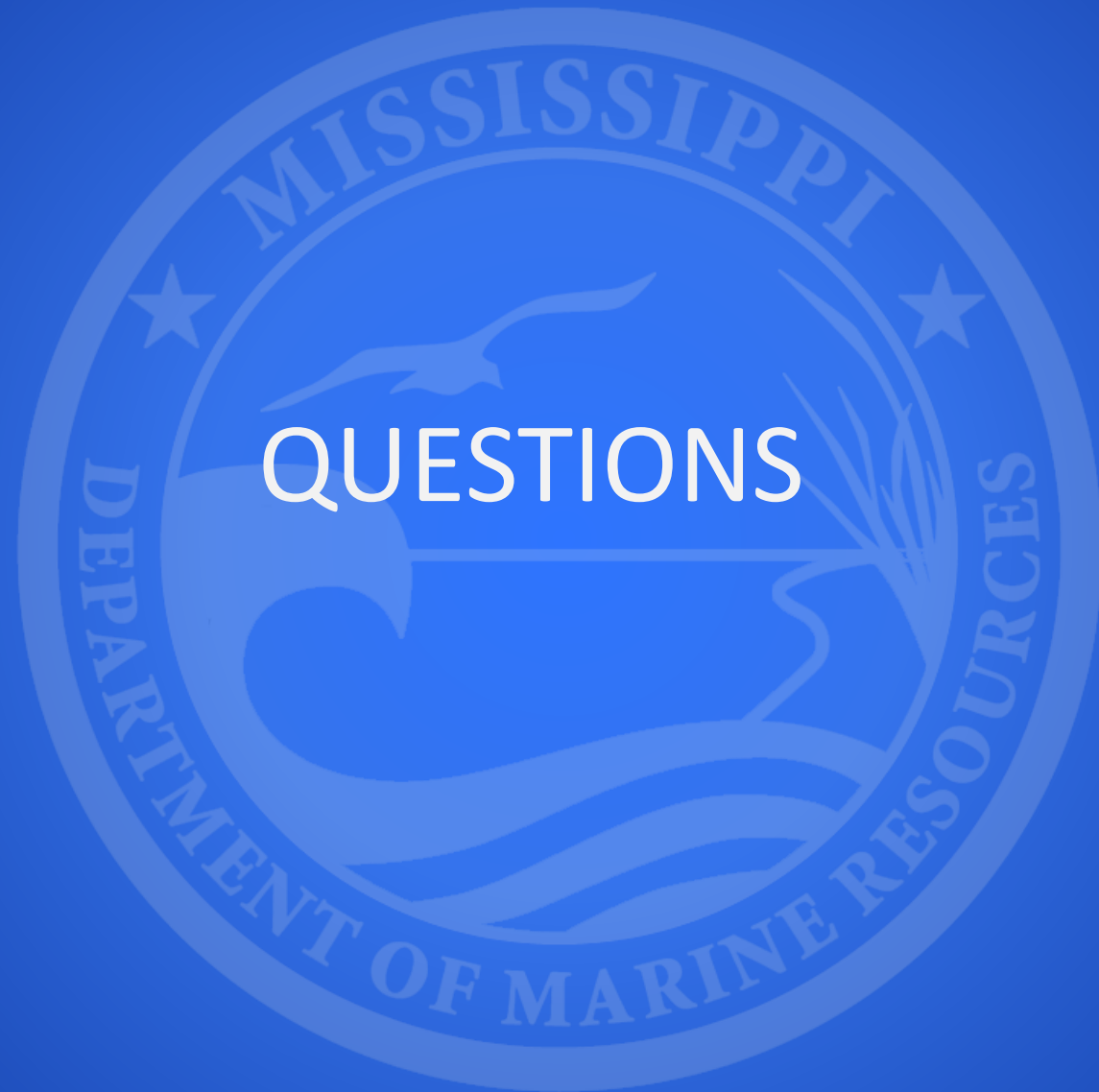
- Tongs
- Dredges

- **Daily Harvest Quota:**

- Tongs 10 sacks per boat/per day
- Dredge 20 sacks per boat/per day
- Recreational 3 sacks per boat/per 7-day period

- **Total Number of Sack Harvested: Approx 1200**





QUESTIONS

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Grand Bay NERR

Report from Star Party 2024!



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Star Party 2024

Guests – 251

Volunteers – 8

Staff – 15

No meteors, but...

Four planets (Mars, Venus, Jupiter & Saturn) along with Saturn's Rings and Jupiter's Moons were sighted!





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Star Party 2024

Santa Pictures!





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Star Party 2024

Growing Families!





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2018



2021



2016



2019



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Star Party 2024

Crafting Fun!





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Star Party 2024

Hayride!





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Star Gazing!





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Star Party 2024

Soup & Cookies!





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Star Party 2024 Fun & Learning!





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Star Party 2025

Making a Family Tradition!





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