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Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources

August 19, 2025



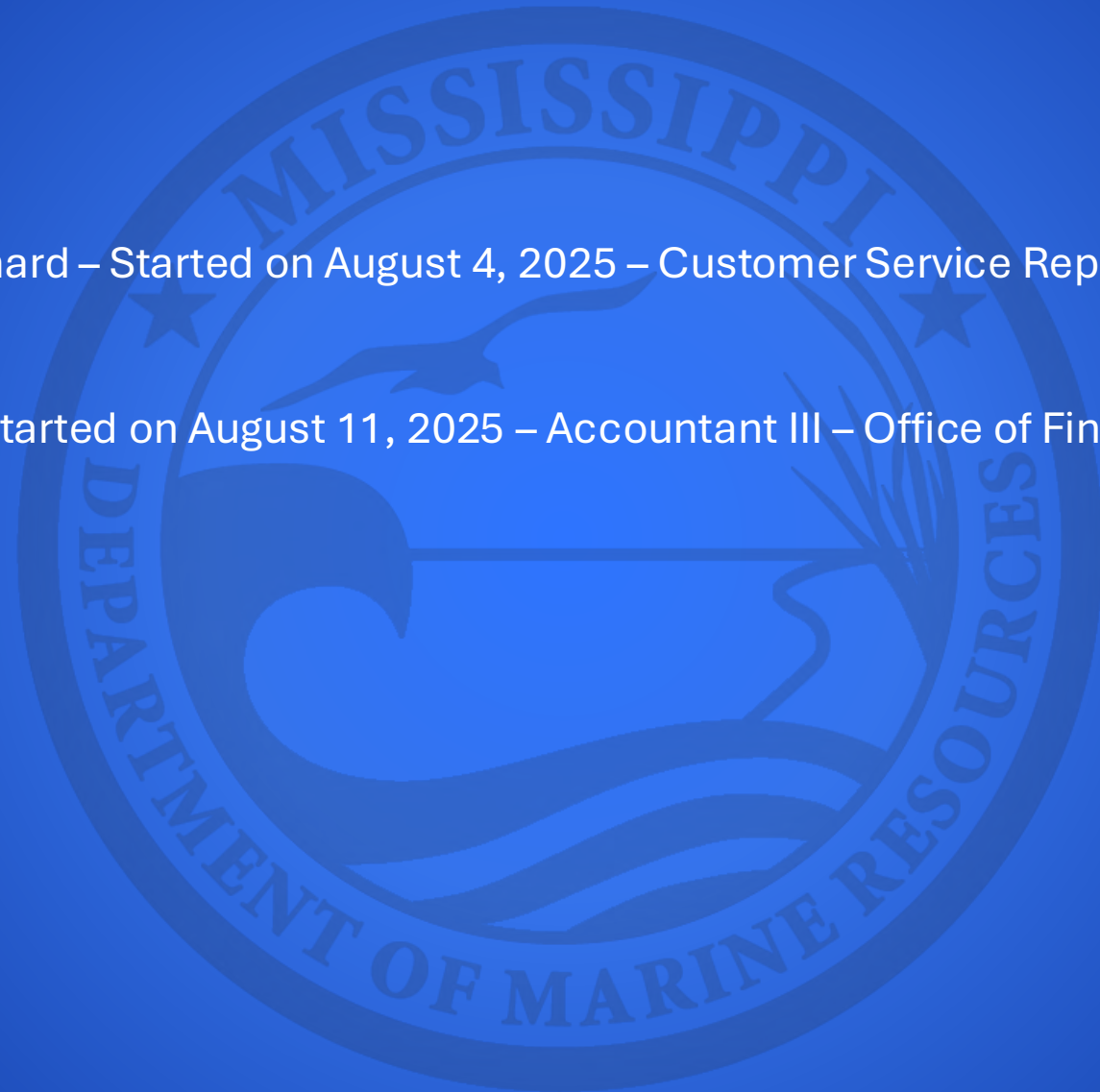
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Employment, Contracts and Procurement Updates August 19, 2025

Employment Updates

New Hires:

- Elizabeth Kinnard – Started on August 4, 2025 – Customer Service Representative II – Office of Marine Patrol
- Victoria Le – Started on August 11, 2025 – Accountant III – Office of Finance & Accounting



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Actions Update for the August 19, 2025 Commission Meeting

Discussed at the July 2025 meeting:

The Commission recommended and the Director approved:

- Motion to approve the permit and requested variances for the City of Biloxi's Point Cadet project to fill 6.51 acres of unvegetated water bottoms, adding tidal marsh, sand beach, elimination of low spot and breakwaters with the permit containing the following conditions:
 - Adaptive management plan.
 - Coordination with USG for navigational aids.
 - SAV inspection

- Motion to recommend that the proposed changes to Title 22, Part 23 The Mississippi Coastal Program be filed with the Secretary of State's Office for final adoption with the proposed effective date to be 30 days from filing.

- Motion to approve the following State Saltwater Finfish Record:

Conventional Tackle:

Gray Snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*) – 15 lbs. 9.6 oz –
Timothy Kennedy

All Tackle:

Permit (*Trachinotus falcatus*) – 14 lbs. 3.2 oz. –
Mike Aucoin

Youth Conventional Tackle:

Bonnethead (*Sphyrna tiburo*) – 8 lbs. 15.2 oz. –
Riley Armes

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Wetland Permitting Actions Jan-Jun 2025

Total Actions	
Total	454
Regulated Activities/ CZ Consistency Determinations	374
Reviews/ Pre-Application Meetings	52
Violations	28

Wetland Permitting Actions Comparison

	1 st half 2022	1 st half 2023	1 st half 2024	1 st half 2025
Total Actions	467	360	388	454
Regulated Activities/ CZ Consistency Determinations	394	302	323	374
Reviews/ Pre-Application Meetings	56	41	49	52
Violations	17	17	17	28*

*13 – No violation identified
 11 – Granted after-the-fact approval; project met guidelines
 4 – Resolved by property owner voluntarily



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**Request for Permit by:
Jackson County BOS
DMR25-000012**

- **Location: Between Canty Street and Communy Avenue, Pascagoula, Jackson County**
- **Use District: (G) General Use District**
- **Agent: Neel-Schaffer – Lisa Morrison**
- **Project Purpose/Need:**
 - **Improve drainage and reduce flooding for members of the community that live and travel near the project area**

Project Description

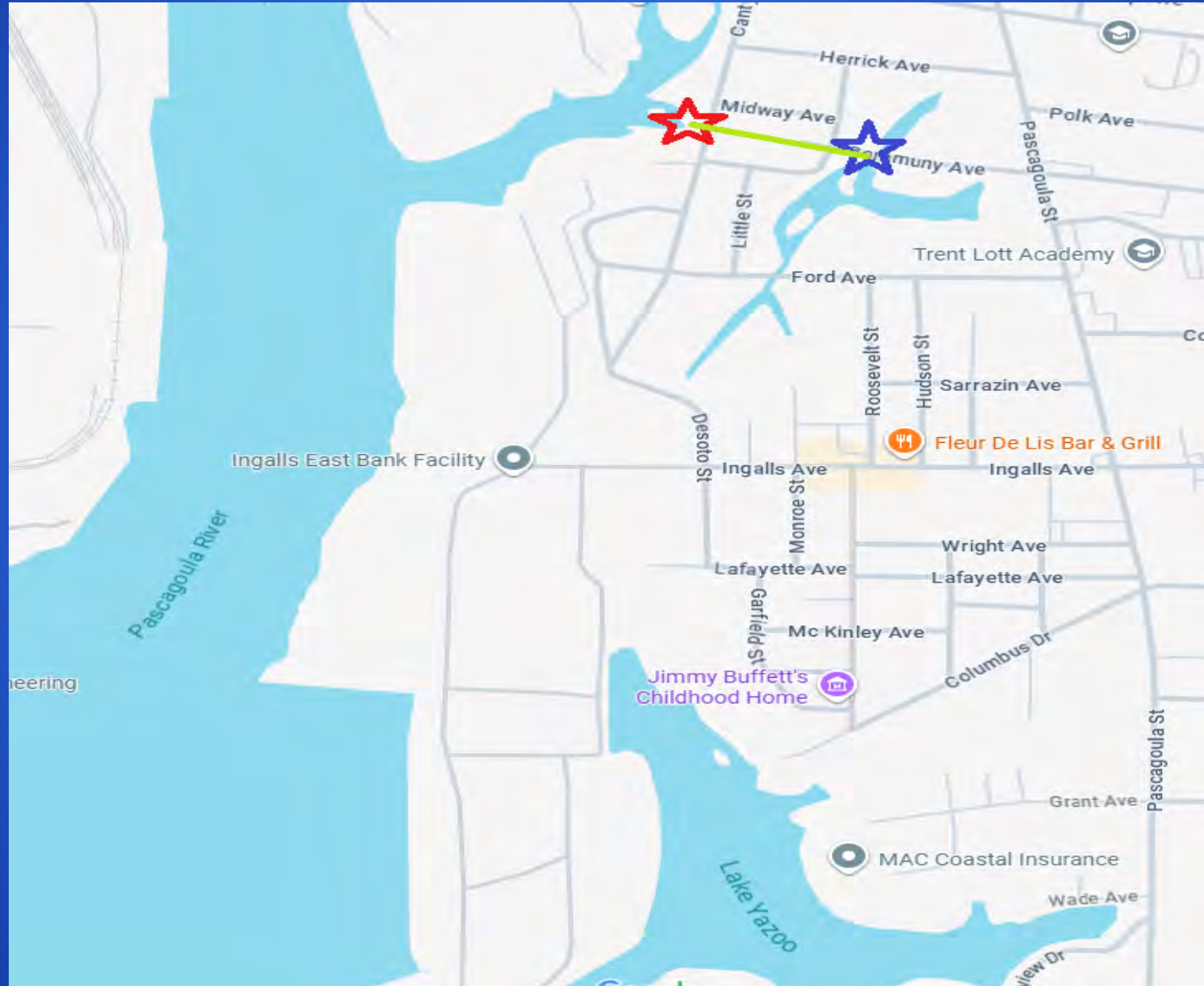
- **Fill for Drainage Improvements**
 - **Coastal Wetlands: 185 square feet (0.004 acre)**
 - 10 square feet of vegetated waterbottoms
 - 175 square feet of unvegetated waterbottoms
 - **Impacts include:**
 - Installation of a culvert structure at Canty Street
 - Riprap around culvert for stabilization
 - For unavoidable impacts to Coastal Wetlands, applicant is requesting variances which will be discussed on a later slide
 - Non-wetland elements to project include installation of box culvert to connect the new culvert at Canty Street and the existing culvert at Communy Avenue for rerouting of stormwater, and replacement of existing sidewalk near the project area along Canty Street

Project Location

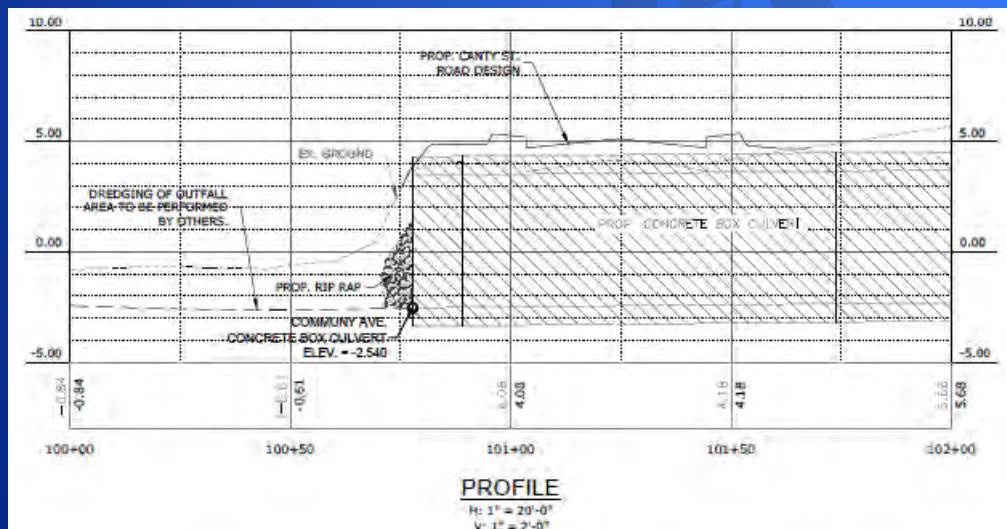
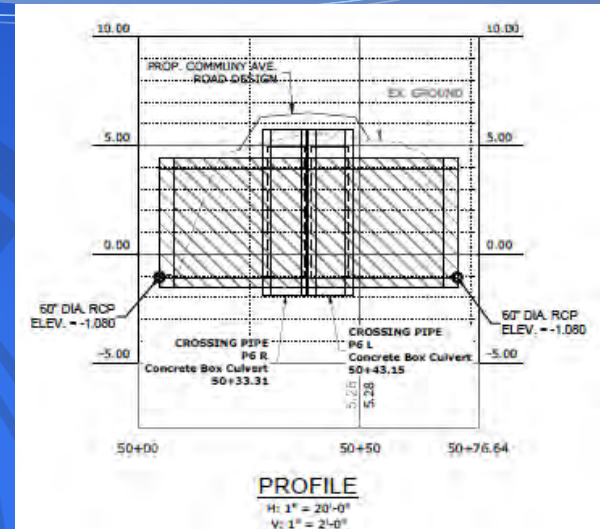
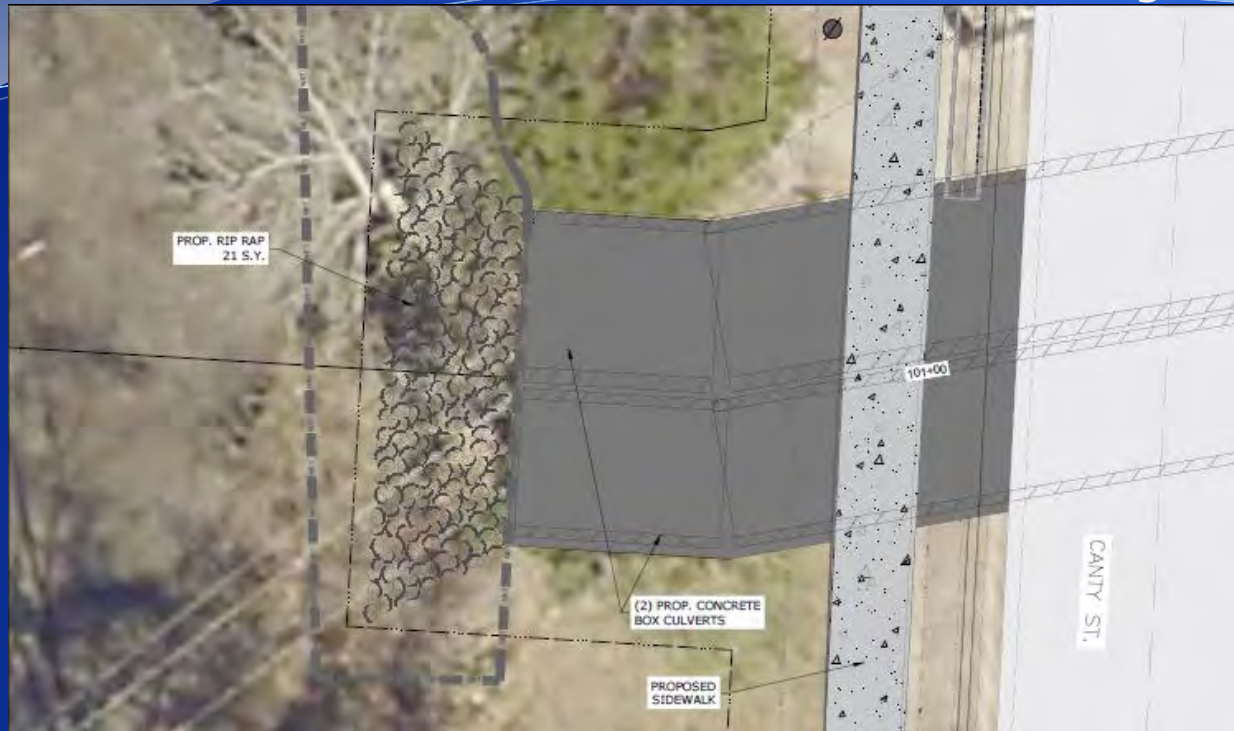
Red star: Coastal Wetland Impacts for new culvert outfall
Blue star: existing culvert where new box culverts will connect



Receiving Waters



Project Plans



Variance Requests

- **Title 22, Part 23 (MS Coastal Program):**
 - Rule 8.15.A “Permanent filling of coastal wetlands below the mean high tide line because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is not authorized.”
- **Justification:**
 - Rule 8.19.C by stating that no feasible, alternative sites or construction techniques are available; there is a significant public benefit in the activity; and a public hearing has been held.

Mitigation for Impacts to Coastal Wetlands

- For impacts to unvegetated & vegetated Coastal Wetlands totaling 185 square feet, the applicant proposes to remove and relocate the impacted tidal marsh vegetation (10 square feet) to adjacent tidal marsh outside of the construction zone; the marsh vegetation will then be spread over a 30 square foot area and allowed to regrow naturally

Public and Agency Notice and Comments

- **Public Notice**

- Notification of the proposed project appeared in The Sun Herald on July 6, 13, and 20 of 2025.
- Notification of the proposed project appeared on the MDMR website from July 8 through July 25, 2025.
- No public comments were received

- **Public Hearing**

- Held Thursday, July 24, 2025
 - One comment received in favor of project
- **MDEQ: No comments received**
- **MDAH: From the agent, a CRS was performed and submitted to MDAH; MDAH requested more information and agent responded with additional information – awaiting final letter from MDAH**
- **MS SOS: “...a rent-exempt Public Trust Tidelands Lease from the State of Mississippi through this office is required for use of the public trust lands at this location.”**

Staff Recommendation

- The staff of the Department of Marine Resources has conducted a thorough evaluation of the project and has made findings on the decision factors in accordance with Title 22, Part 23 (Mississippi Coastal Program). The project would serve a higher public interest by:
 - Improving drainage and reducing flooding for individuals that live and travel near Canty Street and Communny Avenue in Pascagoula
- Therefore, staff requests a motion that the Commission recommend to the Executive Director:
 - Approve the requested Variance
 - Approve the Permit as requested



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HSSM Club Paws Summer Day Camp - July

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Pascagoula River Clean Up





USM Summer Field Program

ENHA





Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo

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Red Clay and Sand Mixer at the Neshoba County Fair



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
GREAT American Seafood COOK-OFF



Chef Jon "JD" Davis
The Bounty of Mississippi
Sweet Potato Crusted Red Snapper, Missimati Bayou Okra
& Tomato Rice w/MS Red Pepper Sauce & Basil Dressing



GULF ★ FRESH
MISSISSIPPI
SEAFOOD

★ AMERICA'S SEAFOOD ★



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State Saltwater Finfish Records

Trevor Moncrief

August 19, 2025

K.1.

The seal of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is a circular emblem. It features a central illustration of a bird in flight over a body of water with waves. The text "MISSISSIPPI" is arched across the top, and "DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES" is arched across the bottom. Two stars are positioned on either side of the central illustration.

Conventional Tackle

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Conventional Tackle Fishing Record

Conger Eel

Conger oceanicus

Old Record: 12 lbs. 8.20 oz.

New Record: 30 lbs. 2.24 oz.

Angler: Brandon Hogue



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
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The background features a large, semi-transparent seal of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The seal is circular and contains the text "MISSISSIPPI" at the top and "DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a stylized illustration of a fish, possibly a blue crab, with its legs and claws visible. The seal is set against a dark blue background with light blue wavy lines at the top.

Required Action:
Motion to recommend the
approval of the State Records

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