



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources

February 10, 2026



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Employment, Contracts and Procurement Updates February 10, 2026

Employment Updates

New Hires:

- Ashley Bosarge – Started on January 26, 2026 – Environmental/Natural Resources Specialist II – Grand Bay NERR

Promotions:

- Trevor Moncrief – Promoted on February 1, 2026 – Environmental/Natural Resources Specialist Manager – Office of Marine Fisheries
- Cameron Keys – Promoted on February 1, 2026 – Law Enforcement Officer III, Staff Sergeant – Office of Marine Patrol
- Dylan Kessen – Promoted on February 1, 2026 – Law Enforcement Officer Team Lead, Sr. Master Sergeant – Office of Marine Patrol



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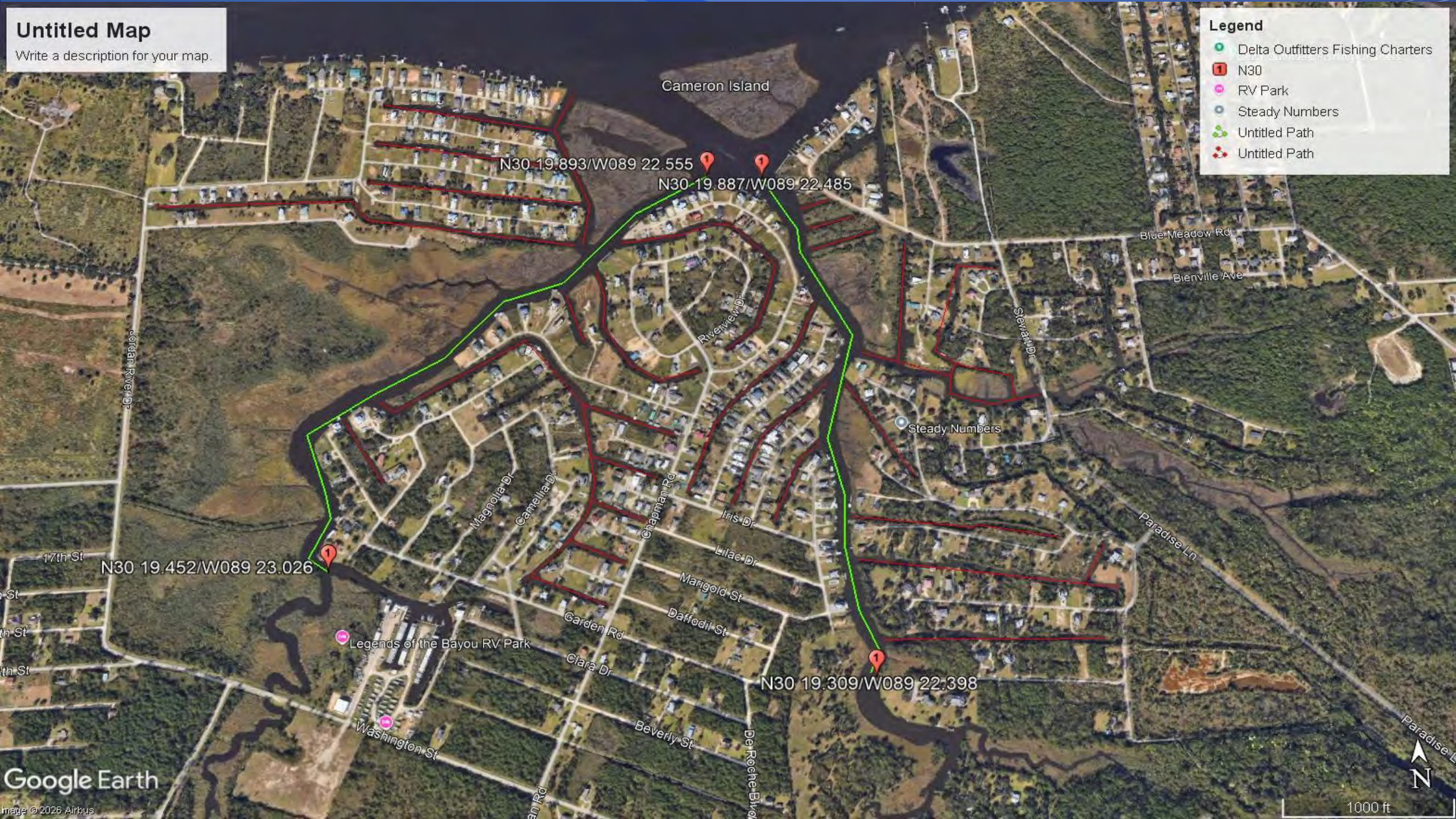
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NO WAKE ZONE PROPOSAL

Garden Isles in Bay St. Louis

Legend

- Delta Outfitters Fishing Charters
- 📍 N30
- 🚐 RV Park
- 📍 Steady Numbers
- 🌿 Untitled Path
- 🌿 Untitled Path



Affects to boaters

- Edwards bayou: boaters would be required to operate at idle speed for as much as 11 minutes and 30 seconds for the length considered
- Watts bayou: boaters would be required to operate at idle speed for as much as 10 minutes and 12 seconds for the length considered

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Requested in the resolution for consideration was all residential canals and “off-shoots”.
- Residential canals having permanent mooring locations for vessels, boat lifts and boat houses narrowing waterways in some places to 20 feet. All conditions reducing the ability for wake mitigation in these areas
- Private property activities such as dock fishing, swimming and launching provide for high risk of injury or property damage due to excessive wakes

Staff Recommendation

- The Office of Marine Patrol requests that the Commission recommend to the Director, approval of the establishment of a No Wake Zone for the proposed Garden Isle area in Bay St. Louis based on normal operation and vessel speed in relation to the public and private access areas in which people fish, swim and socialize.



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**Request for Permit by:
Marti Cockrell
DMR25-000557**

- **Location: Mississippi Sound, Near Shearwater Drive, Ocean Springs, Jackson County, MS**
- **Use District: (G) General Use District**
- **Agent: Mississippi State University – Eric Sparks**
- **Project Purpose/Need: Create a living shoreline to prevent high rates of erosion due to wind-driven waves and boat wakes. This project will stabilize the shoreline and add to the existing essential fish habitat.**

Project Description

- **Fill of Coastal Wetlands for the installation of a living shoreline consisting of 9 breakwaters and plantings**
 - **Eight of the breakwaters will be 25 feet long and the ninth will be 33 feet long. All will be 7 feet wide at the base, and 3.13 feet tall (up to 1 foot above Mean High Water).**
 - **The breakwaters will be placed a maximum of 95 feet from Mean High Water.**
 - **Planting of 7,159 square feet of native marsh vegetation, extending from Mean High Water up to 22 feet waterward.**

Project Location



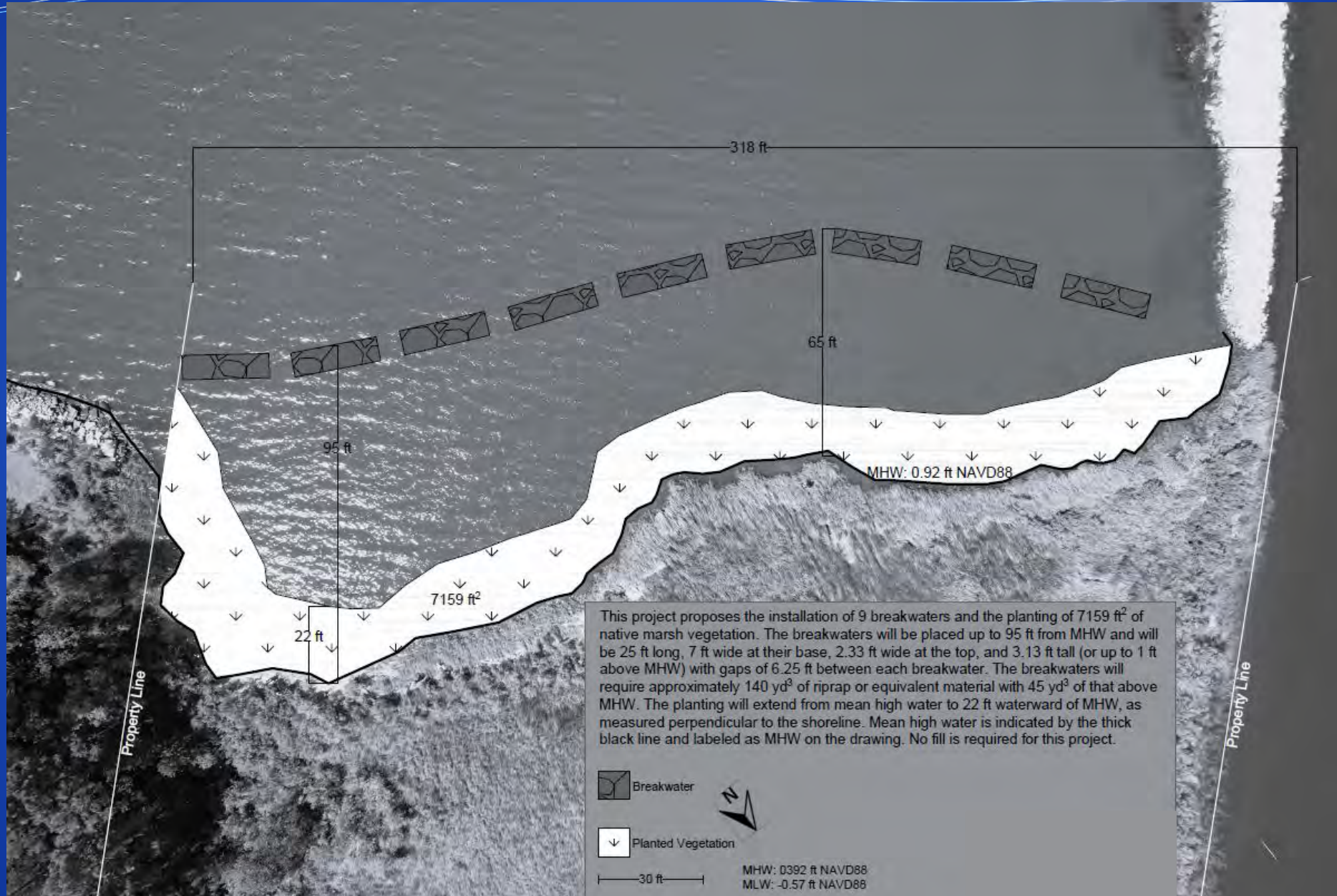
OS
Harbor

Front Beach

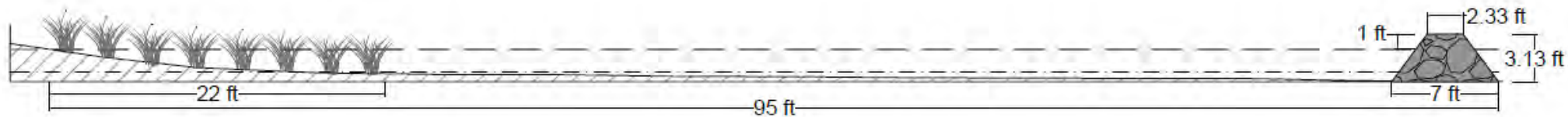
Project
Location

East Beach

Project Layout



Cross Section



Planted Vegetation



Breakwater



Water Bottom



MHW: 0.92 ft NAVD88



MLW: -0.57 ft NAVD88

Variance Request

- **22 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 23 (MS Coastal Program):**
 - Rule 8.15.A “Permanent filling of coastal wetlands below the OHWM is not authorized.”
- **Justification:**
 - Rule 8.19.A “The impacts on Coastal Wetlands would be no worse than if the requirements were followed.”
 - The overall intent of this project is to reduce shoreline erosion and enhance shoreline vegetation that provides an immense amount of ecosystem services for coastal Mississippi.

Public and Agency Notice and Comments

- **Public Notice**

- Notification of the proposed project appeared in The Sun Herald on December 14th, 21st, and 28th 2025.
- Notification of the proposed project appeared on the MDMR website from December 11th, 2025 to January 8th, 2026
- No public comments were received

Public and Agency Notice and Comments

- **MDEQ: No comments**
- **MDAH: No comments**
- **MDWFP: No comments**
- **MS SOS:** “Based upon our review of the application, the conditions for our authorization have been met.”

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:
 - Protection of the shoreline and expansion of the existing marsh habitat

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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**Request for Certificate of Waiver by:
TGHP, LLC
DMR24-000119**

- **Location: Mallini Bayou and St. Louis Bay, 103 West Bayview St, Pass Christian, Harrison County, MS**
- **Use District: (C) Commercial Fishing, Recreational Marina, and Dockside Gaming District**
- **Agent: EcoSolutions, Inc.**
- **Project Purpose/Need: To provide tourism and recreational activities associated with a commercial business**

Project Location



Project Description

- **Addition to Bay pier to get to depth to accommodate a water taxi and mooring pilings**
- **Seven additional piers with pilings for boat lifts in Mallini bayou**
- **Removal of derelict pilings and pier within Mallini Bayou**
- **After-the-fact approval of**
 - **an excavated canal for water intake of fire suppression system and associated bulkhead**
 - **extension of existing piers**
 - **piling installation**
- **Total square footage ~3,532**

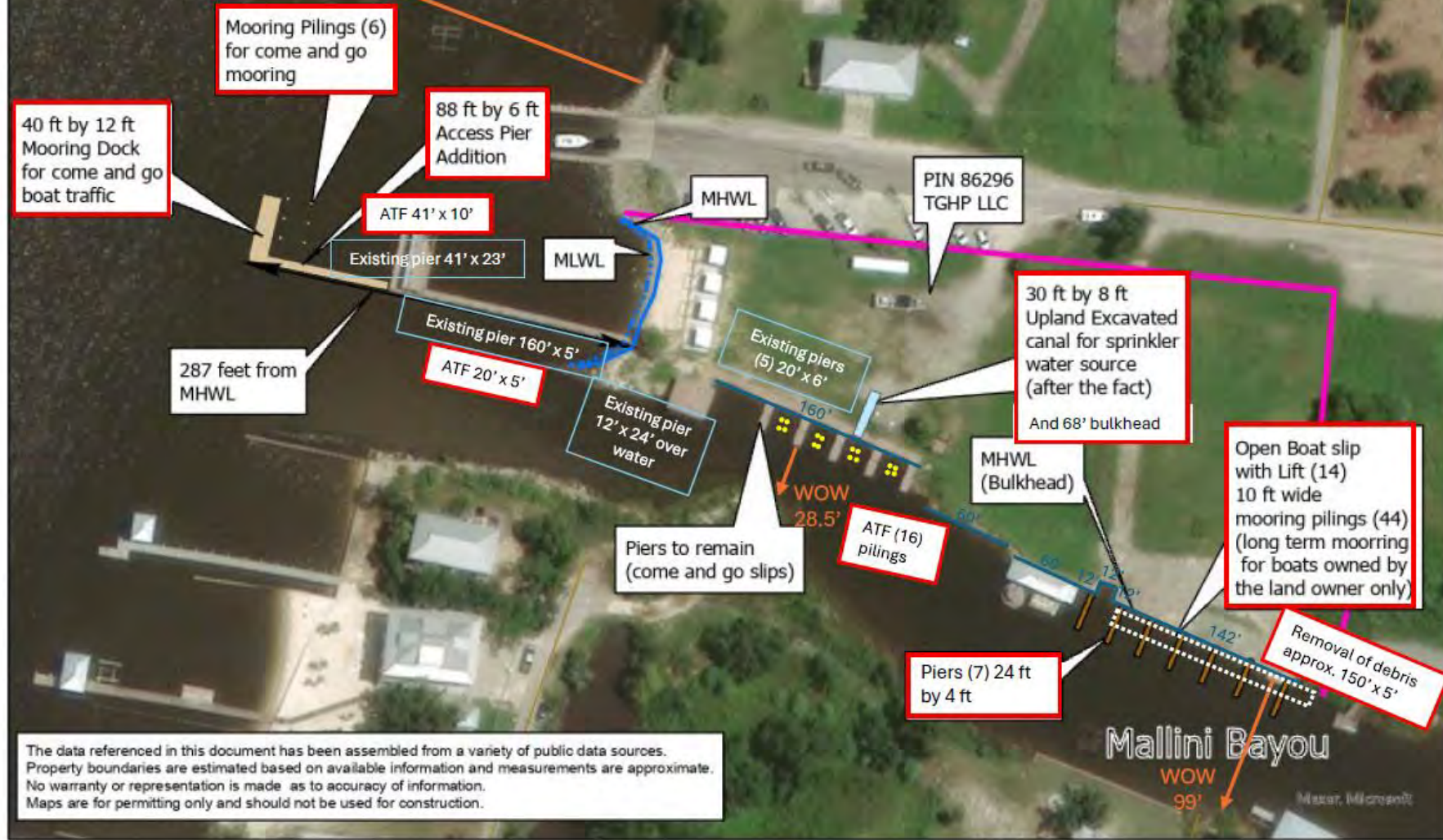
Project History

- DMR21-000437- construction of approx. 300' of bulkhead, (4) 20' x 4' piers, and a 24' x 12' pier
- DMR23-000269- 140' x 4' pier, 40' x 10' pier, maintenance dredging

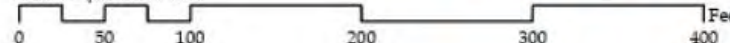


Project Area

Bay St. Louis



The data referenced in this document has been assembled from a variety of public data sources. Property boundaries are estimated based on available information and measurements are approximate. No warranty or representation is made as to accuracy of information. Maps are for permitting only and should not be used for construction.



Coastal Wetlands Use Plan

- The proposed project is allowable within the (C) Commercial Fishing, Recreational Marina, and Dockside Gaming District

Public and Agency Notice and Comments

- **Public Notice**

- Notification of the proposed project appeared in The Sun Herald on October 27, 2024 and January 4, 2026
- Notification of the proposed project appeared on the MDMR October 21, 2024 through November 11, 2024 and January 4, 2026 through January 19, 2026

Public and Agency Notice and Comments

- **Public Comments received:**
 - Increased boat traffic and its effect on the ecology of bayou, erosion
 - Pollution from fuel
 - Damage to existing structures
 - Navigation complications with public boat launch
 - Hazard to navigation in the bayou
 - Proposed use of the boat slips
 - Opposition to the “after-the-fact” request

Public and Agency Notice and Comments

- **MDEQ:** No comments were submitted within the comment period.
- **MDAH:** No comments were submitted within the comment period.
- **MS SOS:** "Some of the project area is held under a commercial public trust tidelands lease...the lease will need to be amended to include the areas outside the leased premises. "

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:
 - Redeveloping a neglected property to a commercial business that will allow increased access to recreational activities and Coastal Wetlands
- Therefore, staff requests a motion that the Commission recommend to the Executive Director:
 - Approve the after-the-fact impacts as requested
 - Approve the Certificate of Waiver as requested



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Let's Talk Aquaculture: A Community Conversation



Biloxi Boat Show



Biloxi Boat Show

Kids 101



Job Extravaganza



St. Alphonsus Science Fair



Career Day – Gulfport Central Middle School



Legislative Reception



Capitol Day





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Update on Multi-Day Limits and Filet Possession

Marine Fisheries

Current Mississippi Regulations

● Possession of Filets

- It is unlawful for commercial or 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.
- Any charter or recreational fishing boat fishing **outside Mississippi territorial waters** over twenty-four (24) hours before returning to land and filing a float plan with the Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) may possess filleted fish in Mississippi waters. Fishermen may not possess more than a single day's bag limit for any species, except licensed charter vessels exercising the exemptions described in Chapter 6 of this Part. Said float plan must be received and filed with the MDMR prior to departure and during the regular operating hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and a copy of which must be on board said vessel for the duration of the trip. Said float plan must be submitted on forms provided by the MDMR, signed by the applicant and official accepting the float plan; and must contain the following information:
 - Name of the applicant
 - Owner of the vessel
 - Name of the vessel captain
 - Official vessel registration number
 - Description of the vessel
 - Date, time and location of departure
 - Destination(s)
 - Anticipated date, time, and location of return

Current Mississippi Regulations

- Multi-Day Bag Limit
 - A licensed for-hire vessel may obtain a two-day bag limit endorsement from the MDMR for a fee of \$100 per year. The endorsement allows the vessel to possess a two-day bag limit (whole or filleted) of Spotted Seatrout, Red Drum, and Southern Flounder under all of the following conditions:
 - The endorsement only applies while fishing in Mississippi territorial waters
 - The trip must extend beyond 24 hours before returning to the mainland.
 - The harvest must comply with Mississippi's current size limits, regardless of the place of harvest
 - The harvest must comply with Mississippi daily catch limits. This endorsement does not authorize any person to take more than one daily Mississippi bag limit during one calendar day
 - The vessel must obtain a float plan from the MDMR prior to each trip.
 - The vessel may possess the two-day limit only during its final return to the mainland. During the final return, fishing is prohibited
 - The vessel's captain and crew are prohibited from keeping a recreational bag limit of Spotted Seatrout, Red Drum, and Southern Flounder while exercising the endorsement. The presence of the captain and crew does not count towards the vessel's daily possession limit for the species listed above.
 - Float plan requirement in addition
 - Name, Vessel, Captain, Vessel description, Date/time/destinations, passenger manifest, return location/time
 - Federal For-Hire multi-day possession

Other State Regulations

- Louisiana
 - Must launch/land from ramp south of Highway 90
 - Proof of actively on the water or at a remote camp that can only be accessed by water
 - May possess up to the possession limit of filets
 - Must have sufficient skin remaining for identification
 - Must be segregated into separate containers with date, name, license
 - Must be within the filet size regulations for each species
 - Cannot actively fish while in possession of filets or more than the daily possession limit

Other State Regulations

- Texas, Florida and Alabama
 - No multi-day bag limit allowances
 - No filet possession allowances
- CFR Allowance for personal consumption
 - 1.5 lbs per person
 - Applies to bag limit



Discussion

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