



## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

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# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***MDMR Closes Areas II "A," II "E," and II "F" to Oyster Harvest***

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) announces the closing of Area II "A" Conditionally Approved Waters, Area II "E" Conditionally Approved Waters and Area II "F" Conditionally Approved Waters to the harvest of oysters, **effective 4 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013**, due to the water quality samples exceeding the management plan criteria for these areas. The management plan is designed to help ensure the quality of oysters and protect the public health.

- **Area II "A" Conditionally Approved Waters (closing)** – This area includes northern portions of the Pass Christian, Henderson Point Reef and northern portions of Hornet's Reef.
- **Area II "E" Conditionally Approved Waters (closing)** – This area includes Square Handkerchief reef and southern portions of Henderson Point Reef.
- **Area II "F" Conditionally Approved Waters (closing)** – This area includes southern portions of the Pass Christian Reef.

All other current rules and regulations will remain in effect.

These areas may reopen for harvest when water sample results meet the management plan criteria for reopening.

**For more information on the open and closed areas, call the MDMR's 24-hour Oyster Information Hot Line at 228-374-5167 or 1-800-385-5902.**

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 [www.dmr.ms.gov](http://www.dmr.ms.gov).

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