

Title 22 – Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Part 7.029 REGULATIONS TO PROVIDE SIZE LIMITS AND BAG LIMITS ON CERTAIN FISH SPECIES AND TO PREVENT SALE OF SEAFOOD BY RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN

Chapter 01 Introduction

Purpose

100 This Part provides for the regulations of commercial and recreational fishermen through size limits, bag limits and gear restriction.

Chapter 02 Justification and Authority

100 **WHEREAS,** The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources has determined that the regulation of all user groups is necessary for the conservation, protection, or propagation of certain fish species. ~~;~~ **and**

101 **WHEREAS,** The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources has determined that regulations must be imposed on minimum lengths and bag limits of certain commercially and recreationally important fish species in order to insure the proper conservation, protection or spawning of stocks. ~~;~~ **and**

102 **WHEREAS,** The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources has determined that there is a need to support the decision of the United States Congress which authorized the United States Secretary of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Assistant Administrator, for fisheries to adopt conservation measures for Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) as recommended by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), which was established by the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, a treaty to which the United States and eighteen other countries are parties. ~~;~~ **and**

103 **WHEREAS,** The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources has determined a need to restrict the incidental catch of Atlantic bluefin tuna in accordance with Federal Regulations. ~~;~~ **and**

104 **WHEREAS,** The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources has determined that the ICCAT recommendation to prohibit a directed fishery on the Atlantic bluefin tuna spawning stocks in the Gulf of Mexico is a valid and necessary measure for the proper conservation of Atlantic bluefin tuna stocks. ~~;~~ **and**

105 **WHEREAS,** The Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources is vested with the jurisdiction and authority over all marine aquatic life and is authorized to enact all regulations necessary for

the protection, conservation or propagation of all shrimp, oysters, commercial fish and crabs in the waters under the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi, as provided for in Section 49-15-15 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. ; and

106 Section 49-15-63 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, provides, in part, that any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of any Title and Part adopted by the commission shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

107 **WHEREAS,** Section 49-15-96 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated; allows for the cleaning (filleting) of certain types of fish for personal consumption by licensed commercial shrimpers. ; and

108 **WHEREAS,** Section 49-15-317 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated; allows any charter or recreational fishing boat fishing outside the state's waters in the Gulf of Mexico over twenty-four (24) hours before returning to land and filing a float plan with the Department of Marine Resources may possess filleted fish in Mississippi waters.

~~BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES THAT:~~

Chapter 03 Definitions:

The following definitions shall apply:

100 **Final destination** shall be defined as a place on the mainland or a barrier island, not including piers or jetties, where the fishermen finally lands his catch and does not further transport the fish by boat.

101 **Recreational fisherman** shall be defined as those individuals taking and/or catching seafood for recreation or personal consumption.

102 **Bag limit** shall mean the total number of a particular species that a recreational fisherman can retain for a single day's catch.

103 Trotline shall be defined as a stationary anchored line with more than three (3) baited hooks.

Chapter 04 Commercial Closure Area

100 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to commercially take finfish from the marine waters north of the CSX bridges in the three (3) coastal counties of Mississippi, except for any euryhaline species of minnow in the Pascagoula river system.

Chapter 05 Filet Regulations

100 It shall be 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 the state's waters in the Gulf of Mexico over twenty-four (24) hours before returning to land and filing a float plan with the Department of Marine Resources may possess filleted fish in Mississippi waters. Said float plan must be received and filed with the Department of Marine Resources 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 Department of Marine Resources signed by the applicant and official accepting the float plan; and will contain the following information:

- 100.01 Name of the applicant
- 100.02 Owner of the vessel
- 100.03 Name of the vessel captain
- 100.04 Official vessel registration number
- 100.05 Description of the vessel
- 100.06 Date, time and location of departure
- 100.07 Destination(s)
- 100.08 Anticipated date, time and location of return

Chapter 06 Fish Allowed to Keep for Personal Consumption

100 Licensed commercial shrimp fishermen may keep in whole for personal consumption only, the following fish which are caught in shrimp nets or trawls of the vessel: white trout, croaker, black drum, and ground mullet (Family Sciaenidae); sheepshead (Family Sparidae); gafftopsail catfish (Family Ariidae); and flounders in the families Pleuronectidae and Bothidae. The cumulative total weight of fish shall not exceed twenty-five (25) pounds. These exemptions for personal consumption does not apply to fish that are otherwise illegal to possess.

Chapter 07 Charter Boat Exemption from Certain Bag Limits

100 Persons on a licensed charter boat or headboat may possess a two-day (2) bag limit only when complying with the following conditions and only for the species listed in 100.06 of this chapter.

- 100.01 Charter boats must be less than one hundred (100) gross tons and meet Coast Guard requirements to carry six or fewer passengers.
- 100.02 Headboats must hold a valid certificate of inspection issued by the Coast Guard.

- 100.03 The charter boat or headboat must possess a reef fish permit if fishing for reef fish or in possession of reef fish in the EEZ.
- 100.04 The charter boat or headboat must have two (2) coast guard certified captains aboard (as required by Coast Guard regulations for trips over twelve (12) hours).
- 100.05 Each person aboard the charter boat or headboat must possess a certificate, issued in the name of the chartering company, stating the time and date the charter left the dock and the trip must be in excess of twenty-four (24) hours.
- 100.06 King and Spanish Mackerel, Snappers (red, vermillion, lane, gray, mutton, yellowtail, schoolmaster, cubera, dog, mahogany, queen, blackfin, silk, and wenchman), Groupers (misty, snowy, yellowedge, warsaw, speckled hind, red, yellowfin, black, gag, scamp, yellowmouth, rock hind, and red hind), hogfish, gray triggerfish, lesser amberjack, banded rudderfish, almaco jack, goldface tilefish, anchor tilefish, tilefish, blackline tilefish, blueline tilefish, and greater amberjack.

Chapter 08 Recreational Bag, Possession and Size Limits

100 It shall be unlawful for a recreational fisherman to possess any fish in excess of a one (1) day bag limit of the following named species as prescribed:

- 100.01 Fifteen (15) spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*)
- 100.02 Three (3) red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*)
- 100.03 Two (2) cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*)
- 100.04 Two (2) king mackerel (*Scomberomorus cavalla*)
- 100.05 One (1) greater amberjack (*Seriola dumerili*)
- 100.06 Four (4) red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*)
- 100.07 Fifteen (15) Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*)
- 100.08 Fifteen (15) flounder (*Paralichthys sp.*)
- 100.09 Five (5) hogfish (*Lachnolaimus maximus*)
- 100.10 Ten (10) in aggregate:
 - 100.10.01 gray snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*)
 - 100.10.02 mutton snapper (*Lutjanus analis*)
 - 100.10.03 yellowtail snapper (*Ocyurus chrysurus*)
 - 100.10.04 schoolmaster (*Lutjanus apodus*)
 - 100.10.05 cubera (*Lutjanus cyanopterus*)
 - 100.10.06 dog (*Lutjanus jocu*)
 - 100.10.07 mahogany (*Lutjanus mahogany*)
 - 100.10.08 queen (*Etelis oculatus*)
 - 100.10.09 blackfin (*Lutjanus buccanella*)
 - 100.10.10 silk (*Lutjanus vivamus*)
 - 100.10.11 wenchman (*Pristipomoides aquilonaris*)
- 100.11 Five (5) in aggregate:
 - 100.11.01 misty grouper (*Epinephelus mystacinus*)
 - 100.11.02 snowy grouper (*Epinephelus niveatus*)

- 100.11.03 yellowedge grouper (*Epinephelus flavolimbatus*)
- 100.11.04 red grouper (*Epinephelus morio*)
- 100.11.05 yellowfin grouper (*Mycteroperca venenosa*)
- 100.11.06 black grouper (*Mycteroperca bonaci*)
- 100.11.07 gag grouper (*Mycteroperca microlepis*)
- 100.11.08 scamp (*Mycteroperca phenax*)
- 100.11.09 yellowmouth (*Mycteroperca interstitialis*)
- 100.11.10 rock hind (*Epinephalus adscensionis*)
- 100.11.11 red hind (*Epinephalus guttatus*)

100.12 Twenty (20) in aggregate:

- 100.12.01 gray triggerfish (*Balistes capriscus*)
- 100.12.02 vermilion snapper (*Rhomboplites aurorubens*)
- 100.12.03 lane snapper (*Lutjanus synagris*)
- 100.12.04 almaco jack (*Seriola rivoliana*)
- 100.12.05 goldface tilefish (*Caulolatilus chrysops*)
- 100.12.06 anchor tilefish (*Caulolatilus intermedius*)
- 100.12.07 tilefish (*Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps*)
- 100.12.08 blacklined tilefish (*Caulolatilus cyanops*)
- 100.12.09 bluelined tilefish (*Caulolatilus microps*)

100.13 Five (5) in aggregate:

- 100.13.01 lesser amberjack (*Seriola fasciata*)
- 100.13.02 banded rudderfish (*Seriola zonata*)

100.14 Three (3) - yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*)

100.15 One (1) per vessel:

- 100.15.01 speckled hind (*Epinephelus drummondhayi*)
- 100.15.02 Warsaw grouper (*Epinephelus nigritus*)

100.16 It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to possess more than four (4) of the following shark species in aggregate per person per day (small coastal sharks):

- 100.16.01 Atlantic sharpnose (*Rhizoprionodon terraenovae*)
- 100.16.02 finetooth (*Carcharhinus isodon*)
- 100.16.03 blacknose (*Carcharhinus acronotus*)
- 100.16.04 bonnethead (*Sphyrna tiburo*)

100.17 It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to possess more than one (1) of the following shark species per person per day and no more than three (3) of the following shark species in aggregate per vessel per day (large coastal and pelagic sharks):

- 100.17.01 sandbar (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*)
- 100.17.02 blacktip (*Carcharhinus limbatus*)
- 100.17.03 spinner (*Carcharhinus brevipinna*)

- 100.17.04 silky (*Carcharhinus falciformis*)
- 100.17.05 bull (*Carcharhinus leucas*)
- 100.17.06 tiger (*Galeocerdo cuvieri*)
- 100.17.07 lemon (*Negaprion brevirostris*)
- 100.17.08 nurse (*Ginglymostoma cirratum*)
- 100.17.09 scalloped hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*)
- 100.17.10 great hammerhead (*Sphyrna mokarran*)
- 100.17.11 smooth hammerhead (*Sphyrna zygaena*)
- 100.17.12 shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*)
- 100.17.13 porbeagle (*Lamna nasus*)
- 100.17.14 thresher (*Alopias vulpinus*)
- 100.17.15 blue (*Prionace glauca*)
- 100.17.16 oceanic whitetip (*Carcharhinus longimanus*)

100.18 It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to possess any of the following species of sharks (protected Species of Sharks):

- 100.18.01 sand tiger (*Odontaspis taurus*)
- 100.18.02 bigeye sand tiger (*Odontaspis noronhai*)
- 100.18.03 whale (*Rhincodon typus*)
- 100.18.04 basking (*Cetorhinus maximus*)
- 100.18.05 white (*Carcharodon carcharias*)
- 100.18.06 dusky (*Carcharhinus obscurus*)
- 100.18.07 bignose (*Carcharhinus altimus*)
- 100.18.08 Galapagos (*Carcharhinus galapagensis*)
- 100.18.09 night (*Carcharhinus signatus*)
- 100.18.10 Caribbean reef (*Carcharhinus perezii*)
- 100.18.11 narrowtooth (*Carcharhinus brachyurus*)
- 100.18.12 Caribbean sharpnose (*Rhizorionodon porosus*)
- 100.18.13 smalltail (*Carcharhinus porosus*)
- 100.18.14 Atlantic angel (*Squatina dumerili*)
- 100.18.15 longfin mako (*Isurus paucus*)
- 100.18.16 bigeye thresher (*Alopias superciliosus*)
- 100.18.17 sevengill (*Heptranchias perlo*)
- 100.18.18 sixgill (*Hexanchus griseus*)
- 100.18.19 bigeye sixgill (*Hexanchus vitulus*)

101 The practice of “finning”, that is, removing only the fins and returning the remainder of the shark to the sea is unlawful.

102 It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to possess any of the following named species of fish under the lengths prescribed:

- 102.01 spotted seatrout – fourteen (14) inches (total length).
- 102.02 red drum – eighteen (18) inches (total length).
- 102.03 cobia – thirty-three (33) inches (fork length).
- 102.04 greater amberjack – twenty-eight (28) inches (fork length).

- 102.05 red and mutton snapper – sixteen (16) inches (total length).
- 102.06 vermillion snapper – ~~ten (10)~~ eleven (11) inches (total length).
- 102.07 lane snapper – eight (8) inches (total length).
- 102.08 gray, schoolmaster, cubera, dog, mahogany, and yellowtail snapper – twelve (12) inches (total length).
- 102.09 red and yellowfin grouper – twenty (20) inches (total length).
- 102.10 gag and black grouper – twenty-two (22) inches (total length).
- 102.11 scamp – sixteen (16) inches (total length).
- 102.12 gray triggerfish – twelve (12) inches (total length).
- 102.13 king mackerel – twenty-four (24) inches (fork length).
- 102.14 flounder (*Paralichthys sp.*) – twelve (12) inches (total length).
- 102.15 small coastal sharks – twenty-five (25) inches total length.
- 102.16 large coastal sharks – thirty-seven (37) inches total length.
- 102.17 lesser amberjack and banded rudderfish – may possess fish between fourteen (14) inches (fork length) to twenty-two (22) inches fork length.
- 102.18 bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) – twenty-seven (27) inches as measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail along the contour of the middle of the body (curved fork length).
- 102.19 yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) – twenty-seven (27) inches as measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail along the contour of the middle of the body (curved fork length).
- 102.20 blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) – ninety-nine (99) inches as measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (lower jaw fork length).
- 102.21 white marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*) – sixty-six (66) inches as measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (lower jaw fork length).
- 102.22 sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) – sixty-three (63) inches as measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (lower jaw fork length).
- 102.23 Hogfish – twelve (12) inches (fork length)

103 However, recreational fishermen not fishing in Mississippi waters may transport and land fish that meet the minimum size and creel limits of the waters in which they were legally caught. Said recreational fishermen must possess a valid saltwater sportfishing license as may be required in the waters where the fish were caught. In the absence of minimum size or creel limits in another jurisdiction, Mississippi law will prevail.

104 It shall be unlawful for saltwater commercial or recreational fishermen to possess more than one (1) red drum exceeding thirty (30) inches total length for a single day's catch.

Chapter 09 Commercial Size, Possession and Catch Limits

100 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation, to **barter**, sell, offer for sale or transport for sale or possess for sale in or from the State of Mississippi the following named species of fish under the lengths prescribed:

- 100.01 red drum – eighteen (18) inches (total length).
- 100.02 spotted seatrout – fourteen (14) inches (total length).
- 100.03 mullet (*Mugil sp.*) – ten (10) inches (total length).
- 100.04 Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*) – fourteen (14) inches (fork length).
- 100.05 king mackerel – twenty-four (24) inches (fork length).
- 100.06 greater amberjack – thirty-six (36) inches (fork length).
- 100.07 red snapper – fifteen (15) inches (total length).
- 100.08 vermillion snapper – ~~ten (10)~~ **eleven (11)** inches (total length).
- 100.09 lane snapper – eight (8) inches (total length).
- 100.10 gray, mahogany, schoolmaster, dog, cubera, and yellowtail snapper – twelve (12) inches (total length).
- 100.11 Mutton snapper – sixteen (16) inches (total length)
- 100.12 red and yellowfin grouper – twenty (20) inches (total length).
- 100.13 gag and black grouper – twenty-four (24) inches (total length).
- 100.14 scamp – sixteen (16) inches (total length).
- 100.15 gray triggerfish – twelve (12) inches (total length).
- 100.16 flounder (*Paralichthys sp.*) – twelve (12) inches (total Length).
- 100.17 lesser amberjack and banded rudderfish – may possess fish between fourteen (14) inches (fork length) to twenty-two (22) inches fork length.
- 100.18 bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) – twenty-seven (27) inches as measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail along the contour of the middle of the body (curved fork length).
- 100.19 yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) – twenty-seven (27) inches as measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail along the contour of the middle of the body (curved fork length).
- 100.20 Hogfish – twelve (12) inches (fork length)

101 It shall be unlawful for commercial fishermen to possess any of the following species of sharks:

- 101.01 sand tiger (*Odontaspis taurus*)
- 101.02 bigeye sand tiger (*Odontaspis noronhai*)
- 101.03 whale (*Rhincodon typus*)
- 101.04 basking (*Cetorhinus maximus*)
- 101.05 white (*Carcharodon carcharias*)
- 101.06 dusky (*Carcharhinus obscurus*)
- 101.07 bignose (*Carcharhinus altimus*)
- 101.08 Galapagos (*Carcharhinus galapagensis*)
- 101.09 night (*Carcharhinus signatus*)
- 101.10 Caribbean reef (*Carcharhinus perezii*)
- 101.11 narrowtooth (*Carcharhinus brachyurus*)
- 101.12 Caribbean sharpnose (*Rhizorionodon porosus*)
- 101.13 smalltail (*Carcharhinus porosus*)

- 101.14 Atlantic angel (*Squatina dumerili*)
- 101.15 longfin mako (*Isurus paucus*)
- 101.16 bigeye thresher (*Alopias superciliosus*)
- 101.17 sevengill (*Heptranchias perlo*)
- 101.18 sixgill (*Hexanchus griseus*)
- 101.19 bigeye sixgill (*Hexanchus vitulus*)

102 The practice of “finning”, that is, removing only the fins and returning the remainder of the shark to the sea is unlawful.

103 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fishermen to possess any cobia smaller than thirty-three (33) inches fork length or to possess more than a daily bag limit of two (2) cobia per person.

104 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fisherman, person, firm or corporation, to possess or harvest from Mississippi territorial waters, in excess of two hundred (200) pounds of red snapper, per vessel, per trip, per day; however the possession restriction shall not apply to federally permitted red snapper fishermen legally harvesting red snapper only from federal waters.

105 It shall be unlawful for any commercial fisherman, person, firm or corporation, to possess or harvest from Mississippi territorial waters, in excess of three thousand pounds (3,000) of king mackerel, per vessel, per trip, per day.

106 It shall be unlawful for person, firm, or corporation to sell or purchase the following species of billfish without the proper federal documentation: blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*), white marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*), and sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*).

107 An annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for commercial landings of flounder (*Paralichthys sp.*) will be set at seventy-four thousand (74,000) pounds, beginning March 1, 2002 and ending September 30, 2002. Thereafter, the commercial fishing season will begin October 1, 2002, ending September 30 of each following year.

108 An annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for commercial landings of red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) has been set at thirty-five thousand (35,000) pounds, beginning October 1, 1990 and ending September 30 of each following year.

109 An annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for commercial landings of spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) has been set at forty thousand (40,000) pounds, beginning October 1, 1995 and ending September 30 of each following year.

Chapter 10 Unlawful to Sell or Buy Recreational Caught Fish

100 It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to sell or offer for sale any seafood caught in or landed in the State of Mississippi and only licensed commercial fishermen may catch

and sell seafood. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to purchase, buy, barter for, or trade for any seafood caught in or landed in the State of Mississippi that was caught or landed by a recreational fisherman, or that was transported into the State of Mississippi by a recreational fisherman.

101 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to transport or deliver any recreationally caught finfish into a building or structure used by any commercial business or establishment that buys, sells or processes finfish. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful for any commercial business or establishment that buys, sells or processes seafood to receive or possess recreationally caught finfish.

102 The commission may issue special permits, for the purpose of possessing recreationally caught mullet (*Mugil sp.*) in a building or structure used by any commercial business or establishment that buys, sells or processes seafood, to those nonprofit organizations that are tax exempt under Section 501© of the United States Internal Revenue Code and which have on file with the State Tax Commission a tax exemption letter issued by the United States Internal Revenue Service. A copy of this permit must be possessed by the commercial business or establishment.

Chapter 11 Bluefin Tuna Possession Restrictions

100 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to take, catch, or have in possession any Atlantic bluefin tuna in the waters of the State of Mississippi except for incidental catches by recreational fishermen.

101 It is unlawful for landings of incidental catches of Atlantic bluefin tuna by recreational fishermen to exceed one (1) fish per boat per week, and landings must be reported to the Department of Marine Resources.

Chapter 12 Fish unlawful to Possess

100 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to take, catch, or have in possession any goliath grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*), Nassau grouper (*Epinephelus striatus*), ø longbill spearfish (*Tetrapturus pfluegeri*), **smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*), or largetooth sawfish (*Pristis perotteti*)** in the waters of the State of Mississippi.

Chapter 13 Commercial Trotline Regulations

100 It shall be unlawful to set trotlines from April 1st through October 31st of each year. It shall be unlawful for a commercial fisherman to set or have in the water more than ten (10) lines at any one time. It shall be unlawful for a commercial fisherman to have more than one-thousand (1000) hooks in the water at any one time. Trotline hooks must be circle type hooks with the points curved in and must be made from metals other than

stainless steel. Hook intervals can be no less than three (3) feet. Trotline mainline, attached hooks, and stagings must tend the bottom at all times. Each trotline must have an attached tag with the fisherman's name and license number. All trotline and trotline components, including lines and hooks, but excluding poles, must be removed from the water between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. daily. No trotline or trotline components, including lines and hooks, but excluding poles, may be left in the water between the hours of 11:00 a.m. on Saturday through 1:00 p.m. on Sunday of each week. It shall be unlawful to set trotlines north of a line beginning a point one-half nautical mile due south of the eastern bank of Graveline Bayou; thence running westerly following the meanderings of the shoreline one-half nautical mile therefrom to Beacon "18" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running northwesterly to Beacon "22" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running northwesterly to Beacon "26" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running westerly to Beacon "34", exclusive of the Biloxi Channel itself; thence running westerly to Beacon "30" in the Biloxi Channel, exclusive of the Biloxi Channel itself; and thence running due South to a point on the north shore of Deer Island; thence running westerly following the north shore of Deer Island to the westernmost tip; thence running westerly in the most direct line to Biloxi Beacon "8"; thence running westerly following the meandering of the shoreline at a distance of one-half nautical mile therefrom to a point one-half nautical mile from the centerline of the CSX Railroad Bridge over St. Louis Bay; thence running westerly one-half nautical mile from the centerline of said bridge to a point one-half nautical mile south of the western abutment; thence running southwest following the meanderings of the shoreline, at a distance of one-half nautical mile therefrom, to a point one-half nautical mile due East of the mouth of Bayou Caddy; thence running due West to the mouth of Bayou Caddy. It shall be unlawful for anyone to remove fish from trotlines that are not specifically licensed or permitted to that fisherman except employees of the Department of Marine Resources.

Chapter 14 Recreational Trotline Regulations

100 It shall be unlawful to set trotlines from April 1st to October 31st of each year. Each person having a valid sports fishing license can use no more than one-hundred (100) hooks per person. No licensed fisherman can set or have in the water more than five (5) lines at any one time. Trotline hooks must be circle type hooks with the points curved in and must be made from metals other than stainless steel. Hook intervals can be no less than three (3) feet. Trotline mainline, attached hooks, and stagings must tend the bottom at all times. Each trotline must have an attached tag with the fisherman's name. All trotlines or trotline components, including lines and hooks, but excluding poles, must be removed from the water between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. daily. No trotline or trotline components, including lines and hooks, but excluding poles, may be left in the water between the hours of 11:00 a.m. on Saturday through 1:00 p.m. on Sunday of each week. It shall be unlawful to set trotlines north of a line beginning a point one-half nautical mile due south of the eastern bank of Graveline Bayou; thence running westerly following the meanderings of the shoreline one-half nautical mile therefrom to Beacon "18" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running northwesterly to Beacon "22" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running northwesterly to Beacon "26" in the Biloxi Bay

Channel; thence running westerly to Beacon "34", exclusive of the Biloxi Channel itself; thence running westerly to Beacon "30" in the Biloxi Channel, exclusive of the Biloxi Channel itself; and thence running due South to a point on the north shore of Deer Island; thence running westerly following the north shore of Deer Island to the westernmost tip; thence running westerly in the most direct line to Biloxi Beacon "8"; thence running westerly following the meandering of the shoreline at a distance of one-half nautical mile therefrom to a point one-half nautical mile from the centerline of the CSX Railroad Bridge over St. Louis Bay; thence running westerly one-half nautical mile from the centerline of said bridge to a point one-half nautical mile south of the western abutment; thence running southwestly following the meanderings of the shoreline, at a distance of one-half nautical mile therefrom, to a point one-half nautical mile due East of the mouth of Bayou Caddy; thence running due West to the mouth of Bayou Caddy. It shall be unlawful for anyone to remove fish from trotlines that are not specifically licensed or permitted to that fisherman except employees of the Department of Marine Resources.

Chapter 15 Gear Restriction in Reef Areas

100 In the permitted reef areas bounded by the below coordinates it shall be illegal to fish with more than three (3) hooks per line or to use spear fishing gear equipped with power heads.

- 100.01 FH 4 - 3010.600/-8854.100,3010.245/-8854.100, 3010.600/-8853.600, 3010.395/-8853.600
- 100.02 FH 8 3016.100/-8857.600,3015.900/-8857.600, 3016.100/8857.800,3015.900/8857.800
- 100.03 FH 9/11 – 3016.000/-8853.600, 3015.300/-8853.600, 3016.000/-8854.300, 3015.300/-8854.300
- 100.04 FH 10 - 3016.00/-8838.900,3015.860/-8838.900, 3016.000/-8839.000, 3015.860/-8839.000
- 100.05 FH 14 - 3012.440/-8849.499, 3012.200/-8849.499, 3012.440/-8849.720, 3012.200/-8849.720
- 100.06 Cat Island Reef - 3012.282/-8904.899, 3012.053/-8905.068, 3012.152/-8904.631, 3011.929/-8904.790

Chapter 16 Penalties

100 Any person, firm, or corporation violating any of the provisions of [Title 22 Part 7 Ordinance](#) shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be penalized as provided by law. Violations of more than one (1) section or subsection of this [Title 22 Part 7 Ordinance](#), or part thereof, shall be considered separate offenses and punished as such.

Chapter 17 Sections and Subsections Declared Separable

100 Each section and subsection of Title 22 Part 7 ~~this Ordinance~~ shall be declared separable, and if any section or subsection or part thereof shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the balance of said Title 22 Part 7 ~~Ordinance~~ shall remain in full force and effect.

Chapter 18 Administrative Procedures Act

100 Pursuant to the amendments to the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 25-43-101.1, et seq., of the Mississippi Code of 1972, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto by the Secretary of State; the former Ordinance 7.0029 has been modified and the commission and department have adopted the terminology and numbering system developed by the Secretary of State. Therefore, references to “ordinance” or to “Part” appearing in these regulations or the underlying statutes are used interchangeably and refer to the same instrument.

This ordinance shall be in effect and be in force from and after _____, 2005.

Title 22 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Part 7.029 REGULATIONS TO PROVIDE SIZE LIMITS AND BAG LIMITS ON CERTAIN FISH SPECIES AND TO PREVENT SALE OF SEAFOOD BY RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN, shall be in effect and be in force from and after the **First day of **October**, 2005.**

Adopted this the _____ of _____, 2005.
Day Month

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES

By: _____
Vernon Asper, Ph.D., Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

By: _____
William W. Walker, Ph.D., Executive Director