



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

Haley Barbour  
Governor

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

William W. Walker, Ph.D., Executive Director

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
RULE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED MARINE SAFETY ZONE**

In accordance with §59-21-117 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 and Commission on Marine Resources' RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BOAT AND WATER SAFETY ON MARINE WATERS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, Title 22 Part 16, Chapter 10, which authorizes the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) to establish Designated Marine Safety Zones, the Executive Director of the MDMR does hereby declare and establish the following:

A Designated Marine Safety Zone is in effect for waters of the Back Bay of Biloxi, within Five Hundred (500) feet of the centerline of the Poppo Ferry Bridge.

Due to on-going construction to repair the Poppo Ferry Bridge, specific safety rules have been established for vessels transiting this Designated Marine Safety Zone as follows:

1. The entire aforementioned area is declared an official No-Wake Zone. All vessel traffic shall transit this Designated Marine Safety Zone in an extremely cautious manner and at such low speed that no wake is created.
2. Vessel operators in this Designated Marine Safety Zone are to be particularly vigilant for any signs or warning signals that may emanate from personnel on the construction site or from vessels or barges working on the construction project. Vessel operators shall maintain such low speeds that will allow them to immediately comply with directions when signaled by construction personnel or enforcement officers.
3. Operators of vessels transiting the zone shall take whatever appropriate action necessary to minimize or negate the risk of injury to themselves or others in the Designated Marine Safety Zone.

This Designated Marine Safety Zone shall remain in effect for the duration of this construction project or a maximum of three (3) years from the date of this rule.

Any inquiries in regard to this Designated Marine Safety Zone should be directed to Lt. Richard Cooley, Director of MDMR Bureau of Boat and Water Safety at (228) 374-5000.

  
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**William W. Walker, Ph.D.**  
**Executive Director**  
**Mississippi Department of Marine Resources**

4.15.09  
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**Date**