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Mississippi Marine Debris
Task Force

BFI
Chevron Pascagoula Refinery
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Hancock County Chamber of Commerce
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Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
Mississippi State University Coastal
Research & Extension Center
National Marine Fisheries Service
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Naval Station Pascagoula
Office of Congressman Gene Taylor
Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State
Outback Steakhouse
Sea Coast Echo



For Immediate Release: July 31, 2003

Contact: Susan Perkins, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, (228) 374-5022, ext. 5062.

Boaters Needed for Mississippi Coastal Cleanup

BILOXI, Miss.—Calling all boaters! The Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force is searching for volunteers with boats to aid in the island portion of the 15th Annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup to be held from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20.

Private boaters are needed for cleanup of Horn Island, Petit Bois Island, East Ship Island, Deer Island and the west end and southern tip of Cat Island. Boaters must sign up in advance to participate. To volunteer for Cat, Horn, Petit Bois and East Ship islands call Faye Walmsley at 875-9057, ext. 114. For Deer Island call Susan Perkins at 374-5022, ext. 5062.

Volunteers will be supplied with trash bags, data cards, pencils, latex gloves and a free canvas beach tote provided by Chevron Pascagoula Refinery. Following the cleanup, volunteers must show their tote as a pass for a free lunch of hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, potato chips and Coca-Cola products compliments of Outback Steakhouse, at its restaurant in Gulfport, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. only the day of the event.

Volunteers under age 21 must have their parents sign a registration form, available on-line at the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Web site, www.masgc.org/cleanup, and submit it prior to the cleanup. Children 12 and under are reminded that they must wear a life jacket if they are cleaning the island from a boat under 26 feet in length.

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.state.ms.us.

The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup is sponsored by the Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force, which is made up of representatives from BFI; Chevron Pascagoula Refinery; Disposal Inc.; Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve; Gulf Islands National Seashore; Hancock County Chamber of Commerce; Hancock Insurance; Harrison County Sand Beach Department; Jackson County Solid Waste; Keesler Air Force Base; Mississippi Air National Guard; Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium; Mississippi Department of Marine Resources; Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Mississippi State University Coastal Research & Extension Center; National Marine Fisheries Service; Naval Construction Battalion Center; Naval Station Pascagoula; Office of Congressman Gene Taylor; Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State; Outback Steakhouse; and Sea Coast Echo.

Co-sponsors: BP; Cellular South; City of Biloxi, Club Caribbean Divers, Da Beach House, Dole Fresh Fruit, Earthgrains Bakery, Jackson County Adult Detention Center, K99FM, Magic 93.7, 92.5 KISS FM, and V104.9, Knight-Abbey Commercial Printing & Direct Mail, Lamar Advertising of South Mississippi, Memorial Hospital at Gulfport, Mississippi Soft Drink Association, Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce; PEPCO, Rainbow Water, Ship Island Excursions, The Ocean Conservancy, The Sun Herald, Triad Broadcasting Company, and WLOX-TV 13.

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