



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR  
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 11, 2018

Certified Mail No.7017 1450 0000 4597 5339

Mr. Joe Jewel  
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources  
1141 Bayview Avenue  
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Dear Mr. Jewel:

Re: Mississippi Department of  
Marine Resources,  
MS Reef Zone 2  
Jackson County  
COE No. SAM201800559RCV  
WQC No. WQC20180027

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Office of Pollution Control (OPC) issues this Certification, after public notice and opportunity for public hearing, to Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, MS Reef Zone 2: The proposed project is the development of an artificial reef zone. The purpose of the project is to increase the availability of fishing and diving opportunities on desirable habitat. The Mississippi Reef Zone (MRZ2) is a three-sided polygon that will cover 2,403 acres with a minimum clearance of 50 feet of all structures deployed in the reef zone. Materials to be used for the construction of the structures within the MRZ2 will consist of steel hull vessels, materials of design such as pyramids and reef balls, and materials of opportunity such as clean concrete culverts or rubble. The mean low water depth on the project site is approximately 88 feet. The Mississippi Reef Zone 2 is located approximately 20 miles south of the Pascagoula River, adjacent to previously permitted Fish Haven-13, in the Mississippi Sound. [SAM201800559RCV, WQC20180027].

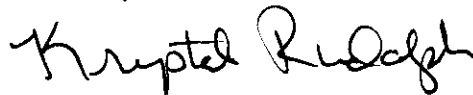
The Office of Pollution Control certifies that the above-described activity will be in compliance with the applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Section 49-17-29 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, if the applicant complies with the following conditions:

1. Material shall be clean and non-polluting, free of trash, debris, asphalt, etc.
2. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
3. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.

The Office of Pollution Control also certifies that there are no limitations under Section 302 nor standards under Sections 306 and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act which are applicable to the applicant's above-described activity.

This certification is valid for the project as proposed. Any deviations without proper modifications and/or approvals may result in a violation of the 401 Water Quality Certification. If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Krystal Rudolph, P.E., BCEE  
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

HMW: mhg

cc: Rudolph Villarreal, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District  
Chris Pickering, Department of Marine Resources  
Paul Necaie, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency