



**Press Release: August 10, 2016**

**Contact: Chris Blankenship, 251-861-2882**

## **Alabama State Waters Close for Shrimping**

Pursuant to Section 9-12-46, Code of Alabama as stated by Rule 220-3-.01, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division announces that as of **6:00 am, Monday, August 15, 2016** the following waters will close to shrimping:

That portion of Mobile Bay extending out from and parallel to the shoreline one-half nautical mile beginning at the center of Mayday Pier and then south to the northern edge of the Point Clear Channel, except in this area only, persons may use a cast net to catch or attempt to catch shrimp for bait or non-commercial purposes not to exceed one gallon of shrimp per person per day.

All inside waters not permanently closed by law or regulation will subsequently reopen to shrimp harvest at 6:00 am, October 1, 2016.

In a 2015 Alabama Legislative session, the Alabama legislature passed SB455 which changed the strategy in which Alabama manages the shrimp fishery. Traditionally, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources/Marine Resources Division managed the shrimp fishery with time/area closures based upon the distribution of 68 count shrimp. However, the 2015 legislation requires waters within one-half nautical mile from the eastern shore between Daphne and Point Clear to be closed to commercial harvest at 6:00 am on August 15<sup>th</sup> of each year and reopen at 6:00 am on October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.