



Press Release April 24, 2017

Contact: Scott Bannon, 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, May 1, 2017** all inside waters will close for commercial and recreational shrimp harvesting.

Inside waters are defined in Rule 220-3-.04 as all waters north of a line extending from the Florida-Alabama line westward along the shore to Alabama Point, thence along the Baldwin County beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the intersection with the Territorial Sea line on Fort Morgan Peninsula, known as Mobile Point (30°-13.46'N, 088°-01.72'W), thence following the Territorial Sea Line across the mouth of Mobile Bay to Dauphin Island (30°-14.77'N, 088°-04.48'W), thence along the Dauphin Island beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the intersection with the Territorial Sea Line on the west point of Dauphin Island (30°-13.72'N, 088°-19.81'W), thence following the Territorial Sea Line southwest to the intersection with the Alabama—Mississippi state line (30°-12.82'N, 088°-23.54'W).

Licensed live bait dealers are reminded that the taking of live bait north of a line beginning at the northern shore of East Fowl River running along the northern edge of the Fowl River Channel to Marker #2 in the Fowl River Channel then southeasterly to Middle Bay Light and then northeasterly to Great Point Clear is prohibited during this closure except by permit holders in the Special Permit Area in the Mobile Ship Channel. Recreational shrimp vessels possessing a Special Live Bait Permit may only take one gallon of shrimp per boat per day.

Special Live Bait Area Permits are only available at the Marine Resources Office on Dauphin Island.

All inside waters, not permanently closed by law or regulation, will subsequently open to shrimp harvest at **6:00 am, Thursday, June 1, 2017**.