

# Impacts to Mississippi's Marine Resources

Joe Jewell October 16, 2019

# Historical Context

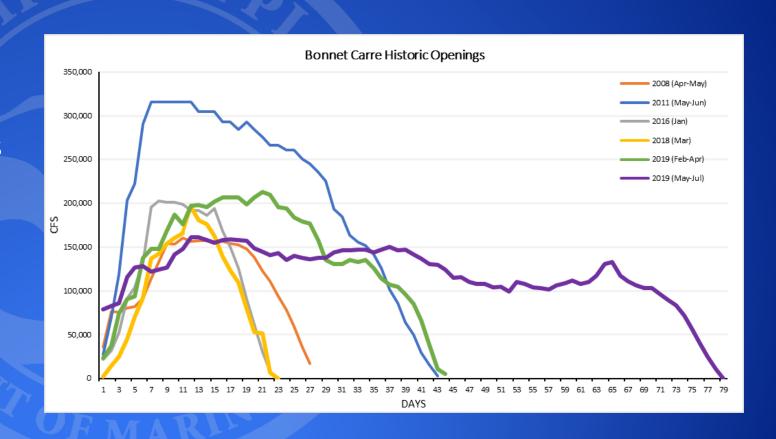
- Became operational in 1931
- Been opened every decade except in 1960's
- First time in history the structure has been opened two consecutive years (2018-19).
- First time in history the structure has been opened twice in one year (2019 February & May).
- 2008-present, open average of every 2.4 years
- Opened 3 of last 4 years
- 2011 Fisheries Disaster declared
- 2016 & 2018 no significant impacts to fisheries
- 2019 Catastrophic Regional Fisheries Disaster Declared (LA, MS, and AL)

Louisiana Mississippi River Control Structures

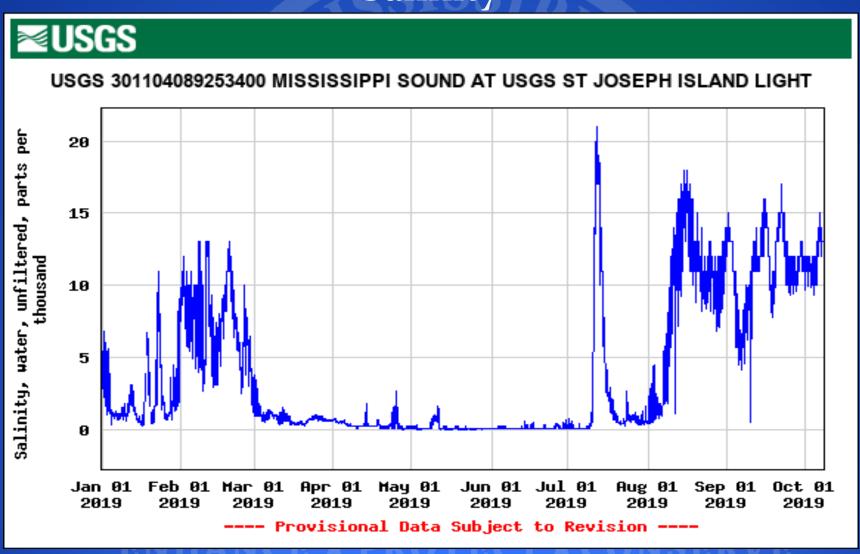


# Bonnet Carré Spillway Gates and Flow Rate

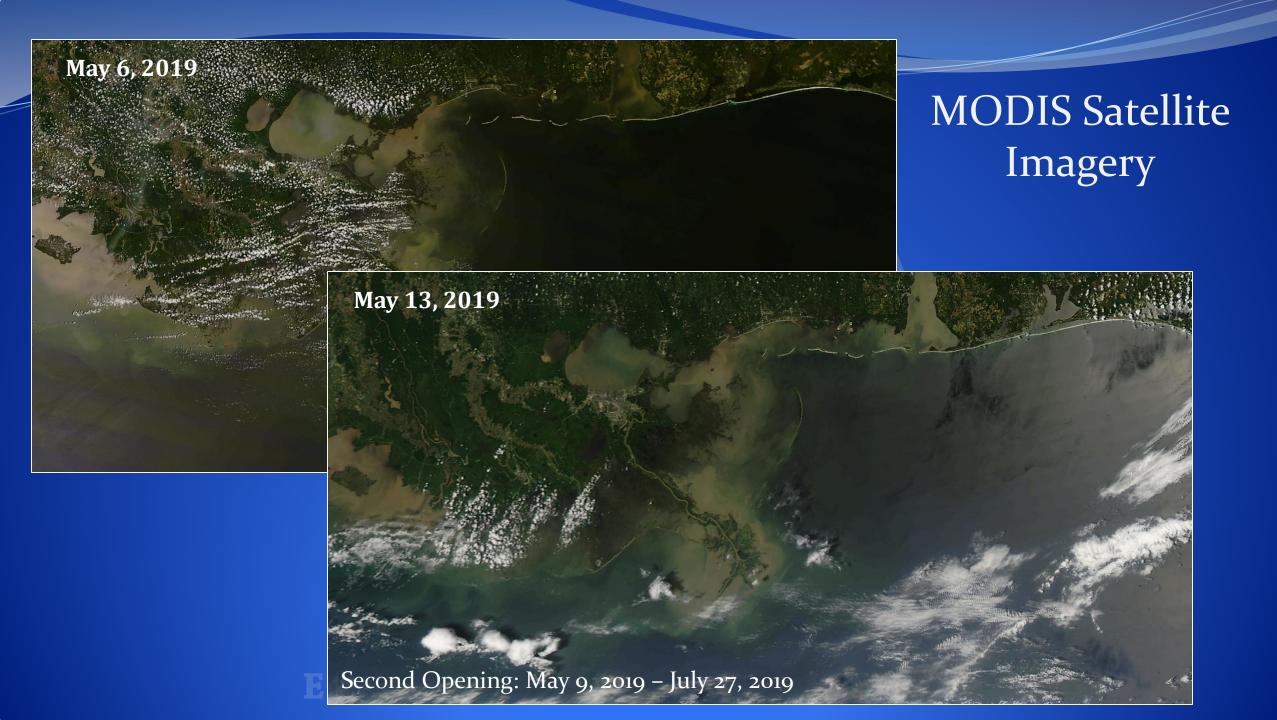
- Feb 27 Apr 11 (44 days)
  - Maximum gates open 206
  - Maximum flow 213,000 cfs
- May 10 July 27 (79 days)
  - Maximum gates open 168
  - Maximum flow 161,000 cfs
- Opened a total of 123 days

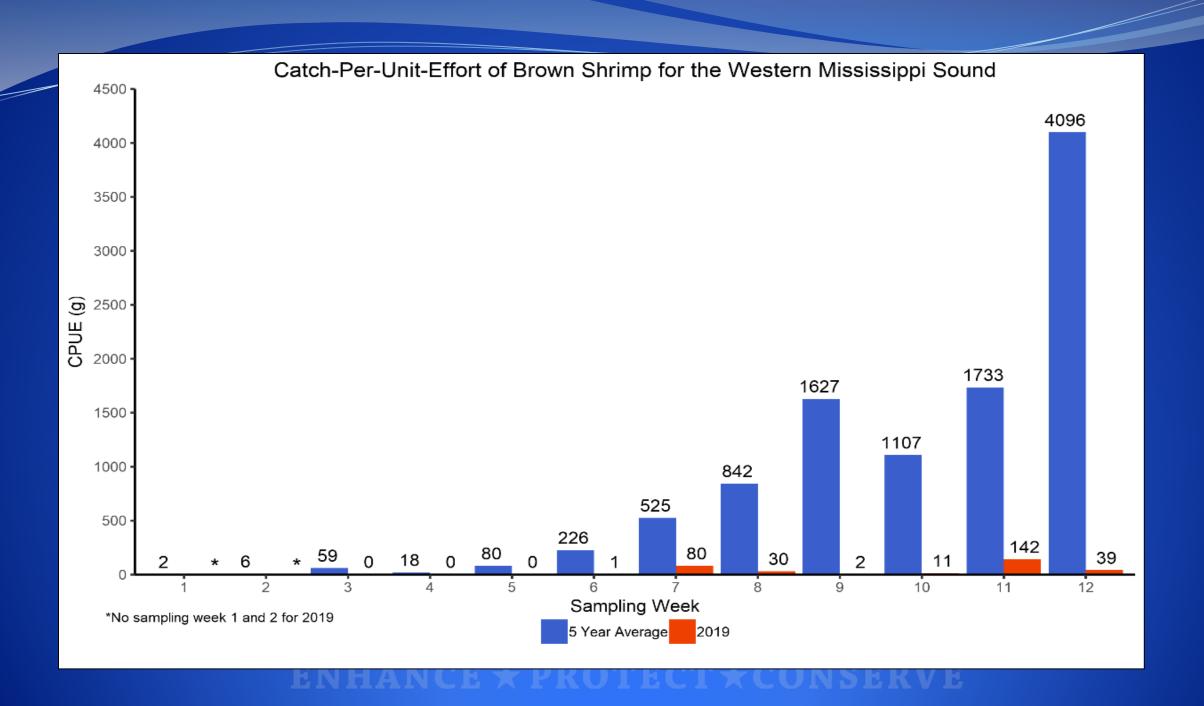


# MDMR/USGS Gauge at St. Joe, MS Salinity

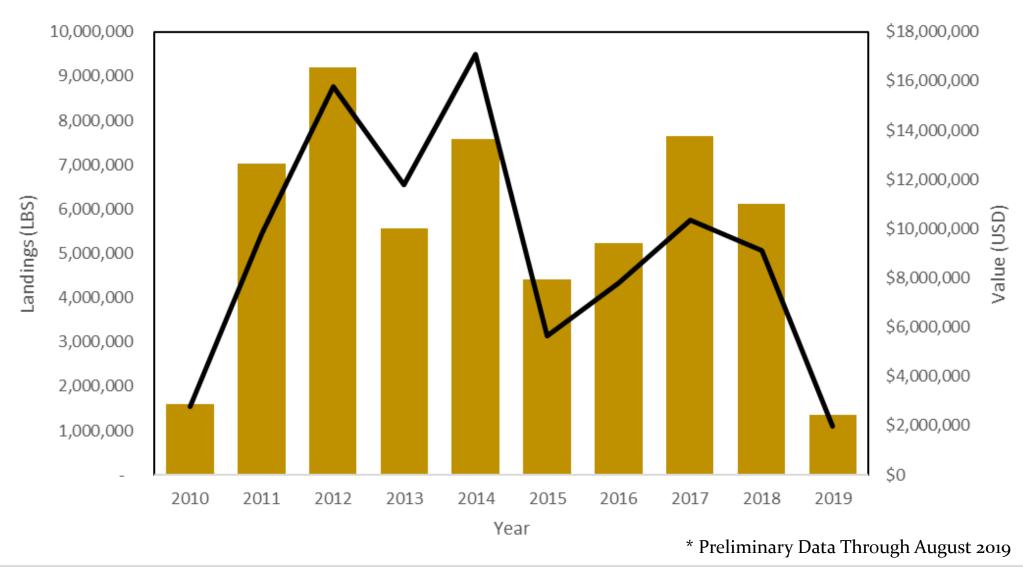




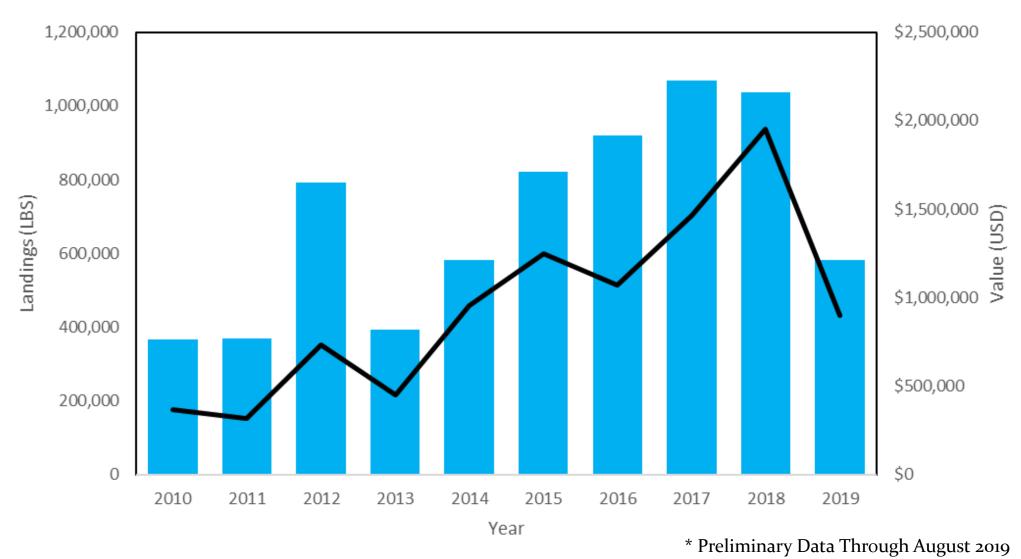




#### MISSISSIPPI HEAD ON BROWN SHRIMP LANDINGS



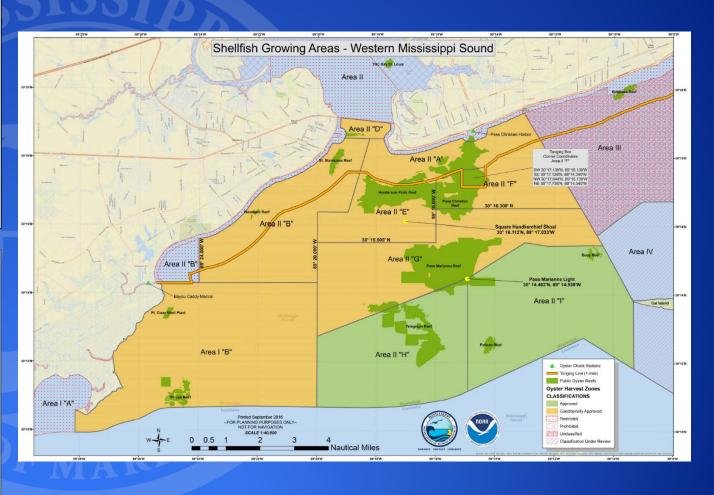
#### MISSISSIPPI BLUE CRAB LANDINGS



# Henderson Point Pass Christian Dredging Pass Christian Tonging Pass Christian Tonging Pass Marianne St. Joe St. Stanislaus Number of Days Since Bonnet Carre Opening



### MDMR Shellfish Field Data

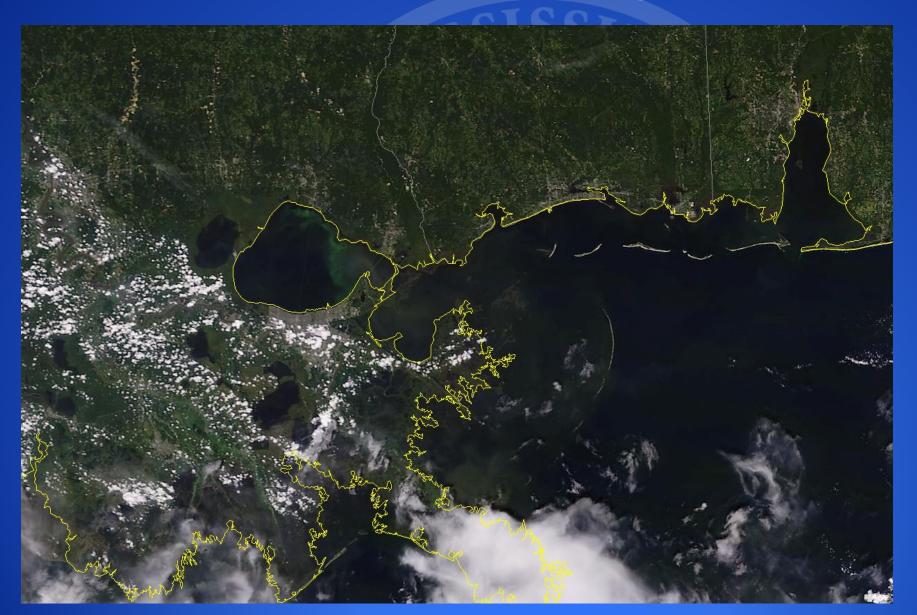


## Freshwater Algal Bloom

- The MDMR Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Response Team has analyzed 1,300 water samples since June 12, 2019.
- *Microcystis* persisted within most samples collected.
- MDMR and MDEQ worked closely to monitor for the presence of cyanobacteria both near shore and off shore.
- MDEQ issued water contact advisories for the majority of Mississippi's beaches from June 23 to October 4, 2019.
- Water samples analyzed for microcystins (cyanotoxin) have all come back below the EPA's recommended value for recreational contact.
- Seafood samples from a variety of finfish species, shrimp and blue crab were analyzed for cyanotoxins. Results indicated that no cyanotoxins were detected above the Method Detection Limit in the meat samples from shrimp, fish and crab.



# MODIS Satellite Imagery



August 16, 2019