



Biloxi Lions Club

Lions Roar



Founded February 18, 1924

<http://biloxilionsclub.org>
www.facebook.com/BiloxiLions

July 21, 2021

USA/CANADA FORUM

We are still encouraging people to attend this world class forum. A few members are planning a driving trip to Des Moines and welcome anyone else to caravan with them!

JULY BOARD MINUTES

The July Board Minutes were read. Please go to our website to see a copy of the minutes and the Treasurer's Report.

GUEST SPEAKER

Rick Burris, Chief Scientific Officer from the Department of Marine Resources



The Office of Marine Fisheries is responsible for fisheries management, artificial reefs, and seafood sanitation. Fisheries management deals with finfish, oysters, shrimp and crab.



One of their newer facilities is the MDMR Dry Lab that was completed in January of this year. It was funded by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) and is currently undergoing a FDA compliance review. The lab capabilities include: growing area water, sample analysis, shellfish meat sample analysis, and harmful algal blooms (HAB) analysis.



Meetings are noon every Wednesday at the Maritime and Seafood History Museum

Another activity they provide is sport fish tagging. They place a tag on species of fish that are being studied and release them. In 2019 they did a study on Tripletail fish to determine their winter movements. When the tag comes off the fish (approximately 3 months after release), it's location is plotted by satellite. Sometimes, though, the fish is caught before the tag releases. When that happens, the sportsperson could release the fish back to the water. If the decision is made to keep the fish, the DMR requests that you try to locate your position (GPS is best!), record your position and the tag information and send it to the DMR so they can log it on their map.

Southern Flounder movement in and out of the Mississippi sound is also a study they are running. However, instead of tag that reports to a satellite, they use an acoustic tag. They then monitor the fish movement by using acoustic monitors they placed on the sea floor at various locations.



When it comes to artificial reefs, they get creative with the materials available. After Hurricane Katrina, they used the rubble from the Ocean Springs/Biloxi Bridge to create an artificial reef south of Deer Island. Also, using a grant, they were able to purchase a decommissioned dry dock from Ingalls Shipbuilding to make another artificial reef.