Mississippi Department of Marine Resources and Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks, Inc.

Artificial Reef Activity Report for November 20, 2003 through January 8, 2004.

Summary

During this period there was one construction trip on FH-13.

On November 28, DMR met Gulf Stream Enterprises (GSE) on rout to FH-13 to deploy the site buoy and the vessel "Gwen Tide". The Gwen Tide is a 180' steel hull supply vessel donated by Tide Water Marine. The vessel was cleaned to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Coast Guard specifications and inspected by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources and Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality personnel. Holes were cut by GSE throughout the vessel for maximum water flow which will aid in invertebrate and vertebrate habitat quality.

The R/V Tommy Munro was chartered to tow the Gwen Tide to the deployment site on the Southwest end of FH-13. On the way to the deployment site, the buoy was deployed for FH-13 at **30 00.510/88 31.035**. The buoy was loaded and deployed from the Gwen Tide with no additional cost to Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks, Inc. The vessel's anchor was left on board to aid in the precise deployment placement. When the vessel was anchored on the deployment site the sea cocks were opened and the strategically placed flooding patches were removed. The vessel went down bow first at approximately 1:35 pm.

The surrounding water depth is approximately 84'. Minimum clearance depth from the bow section is 50' while minimum clearance depth from the deck 75'.

<u>031125 Gwen Tide FH-13 (ID = 417FH13)</u>

Position:

Bow: 29 59.564/88 31.872 Center: 29 59.562/88 31.881 Stern: 29 59.560/88 31.903



R/V Tommy Munro Towing the "Gwen Tide" to Deployment Location.



The "Gwen Tide" Slowly Going Down.



Water Rushing in on the Deck and in the Rooms.



Wheel Hours Going Under.



The Stern is the Last to Go.