Mississippi Sound and Approaches – Dauphin Island to Cat Island
NOAA Chart 11373

A reduced-scale NOAA nautical chart for small boaters
When possible, use the full-size NOAA chart for navigation.

- Complete, reduced-scale nautical chart
- Print at home for free
- Convenient size
- Up-to-date with Notices to Mariners
- Compiled by NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey, the nation’s chartmaker
Nautical charts are a fundamental tool of marine navigation. They show water depths, obstructions, buoys, other aids to navigation, and much more. The information is shown in a way that promotes safe and efficient navigation. Chart carriage is mandatory on the commercial ships that carry America’s commerce. They are also used on every Navy and Coast Guard ship, fishing and passenger vessels, and are widely carried by recreational boaters.

What is a BookletChart™?
This BookletChart is made to help recreational boaters locate themselves on the water. It has been reduced in scale for convenience, but otherwise contains all the information of the full-scale nautical chart. The bar scales have also been reduced, and are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart. See the Note at the bottom of page 5 for the reduction in scale applied to this chart.

Whenever possible, use the official, full scale NOAA nautical chart for navigation. Nautical chart sales agents are listed on the Internet at http://www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov.

This BookletChart does NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Notice to Mariners Correction Status
This BookletChart has been updated for chart corrections published in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Weekly Notice to Mariners, and, where applicable, the Canadian Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. Additional chart corrections have been made by NOAA in advance of their publication in a Notice to Mariners. The last Notices to Mariners applied to this chart are listed in the Note at the bottom of page 7. Coast Pilot excerpts are not being corrected.

For latest Coast Pilot excerpt visit the Office of Coast Survey website at http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/searchbychart.php?chart=11373

A channel leads from deep water in Mississippi Sound through Bayou La Batre to a turning basin 0.5 mile below Route 188 bridge at the town of Bayou La Batre, thence to the bridge. The depths were 17.4 feet in the entrance channel to the mouth of the bayou; thence 15.6 feet (17.0 feet at midchannel) to the turning basin, thence 16.5 to 17.6 feet in the turning basin, thence 11.6 feet (12.9 feet at midchannel) to the bridge. The channel is marked by lights and daybeacons. Route 188 bridge has clearances of 6½ feet down and 73 feet up.

There are small-craft facilities on Bayou La Batre; most are along the E side.

Shipping Safety Fairways.—Vessels should approach Horn Island Pass and Pascagoula Harbor through the prescribed Safety Fairways. (See 166.100 through 166.200, chapter 2.)
Caution.—Petit Bois Island and Horn Island are poor radar targets when approaching Pascagoula Harbor from seaward. Caution should be exercised when making landfall at night and during poor visibility.

Dangers.—Shoal water up to 30 feet extends about 2 miles SW of the W end of Petit Bois Island to about 0.25 mile SE of Horn Island Pass Channel Buoy 10 (30°11′45″N, 88°31′21″W). Spoil banks are on the W side of Pascagoula Channel and on both sides of Bayou Casotte Channel. Strangers should not enter the channel before the pilot boards, especially light vessels during periods of strong winds and adverse weather.

In April 1992, a 30-foot shoal was reported 0.4 mile SSE of the entrance to Horn Island Pass Channel in about 30°09′29″N, 88°33′09″W.

Speed limit.—No oceangoing vessel shall proceed in excess of 5 m.p.h. in Pascagoula River or Bayou Casotte.

Overhead power cables 1.5 miles and 2.6 miles above the mouth of the river have clearances of 68 feet and 80 feet, respectively.

Shipping Safety Fairways.—Vessels bound for Biloxi via Dog Keys Pass should approach the pass through the Biloxi Safety Fairway. (See 166.100 through 166.200, chapter 2.)

Dangers.—A visible wreck was reported about 1.5 miles SE of Biloxi Channel Light 2, in 30°20′22″N, 88°53′6″E.

Anchorages.—Large vessels can anchor outside the sound anywhere W of a line between Hewes Point and Ship Island Lights and have rather smooth water. Deep-draft vessels generally anchor within a 2-mile radius of Gulfport Ship Channel Lighted Whistle GP in depths of 36 feet.

Ship Island Harbor, N of Ship Island, is one of the best natural harbors on the Gulf Coast and is easily accessible at all times for vessels with drafts up to 20 feet, but there is swinging room for only one large vessel. Depths in the harbor range from about 20 to 30 feet with a soft bottom.

Dangers.—Ship Island was cut into two parts by Hurricane Camille in August 1969. The water between the existing parts is shoal with depths of 2 to 5 feet.

The shoal off the W end of Ship Island at West Point is moving W and is unmarked. Mariners should use caution if passing between the shoal and the edge of Gulfport entrance channel.

Speed limit.—The maximum speed for oceangoing vessels shall not exceed 10 knots through the channel between Ship Island Bar and the entrance to the Gulfport Harbor, and shall not exceed 5 m.p.h. while passing any wharf, dock, or moored craft.

[Coast Pilot 5, Chapter 9 excerpts]
Mississippi Sound extends 70 miles W of Mobile Bay between a chain of narrow, low, sand islands and the mainland, providing a sheltered route for the Intracoastal Waterway from Mobile to New Orleans. Natural depths of 12 to 18 feet are found throughout the sound, and a channel 12 feet deep has been dredged where necessary from Mobile Bay to New Orleans. Ship, Horn, and Petit Bois Islands are part of Gulf Islands National Seashore and subject to the rules and regulations of the National Park Service. Petit Bois Island National Wildlife Refuge, Petit Bois Island and Horn Island National Wildlife Refuge are within the National Seashore.

U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center
24 hour Regional Contact for Emergencies

RCC New Orleans Commander
8th CG District          (504) 589-6225
New Orleans, LA
Lateral System As Seen Entering From Seaward
on navigable waters except Western Rivers

PORT SIDE
ODD NUMBERED AIDS
- GREEN LIGHT ONLY
- FLASHING (2)
- OCCULTING
- QUICK FLASHING
- ISO

PREFERRED CHANNEL
NO NUMBERS – MAY BE LETTERED
- PREFERRED CHANNEL TO STARBOARD
- TOPMOST BAND GREEN
- GREEN LIGHT ONLY
- COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

PREFERRED CHANNEL
NO NUMBERS – MAY BE LETTERED
- PREFERRED CHANNEL TO PORT
- TOPMOST BAND RED
- RED LIGHT ONLY
- COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

STARBOARD SIDE
EVEN NUMBERED AIDS
- RED LIGHT ONLY
- FLASHING (2)
- OCCULTING
- QUICK FLASHING
- ISO

For more information on aids to navigation, including those on Western Rivers, please consult the latest USCG Light List for your area. These volumes are available online at http://www.navcen.uscg.gov

To make suggestions, ask questions, or report a problem with a chart, go to https://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/customer-service/assist/
VHF Marine Radio channels for use on the waterways:
Channel 6 – Inter-ship safety communications.
Channel 9 – Communications between boats and ship-to-coast.
Channel 13 – Navigation purposes at bridges, locks, and harbors.
Channel 16 – Emergency, distress and safety calls to Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels. Contact the other vessel, agree to another channel, and then switch.
Channel 22A – Calls between the Coast Guard and the public. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation and safety warnings are broadcast here.
Channels 68, 69, 71, 72 and 78A – Recreational boat channels.

Getting and Giving Help — Signal other boaters using visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, lights, arm signals); whistles; horns; and on your VHF radio. You are required by law to help boaters in trouble. Respond to distress signals, but do not endanger yourself.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/

Quick References
Nautical chart related products and information — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov
Interactive chart catalog — http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml
Chart and chart related inquiries and comments — http://ocsdata.ncdc.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs
Chart updates (LNM and NM corrections) — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html
Coast Pilot online — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm
Tides and Currents — http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov
Marine Forecasts — http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm
National Data Buoy Center — http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/
NowCoast web portal for coastal conditions — http://www.nowcoast.noaa.gov/
National Hurricane Center — http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center — http://ptwc.weather.gov/
Contact Us — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm

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This Booklet chart has been designed for duplex printing (printed on front and back of one sheet). If a duplex option is not available on your printer, you may print each sheet and arrange them back-to-back to allow for the proper layout when viewing.