BACKGROUND

- In May 2000, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for fieldwork in a Delta fish study.
- In April 2001, MDEQ began using EPA’s guidance for issuing fish advisories. This guidance is more protective than the federal Food and Drug Administration’s guidance that had previously been used.
- In June 2001, based on the recent fish study data and the more protective EPA approach, MDEQ issued a fish-consumption advisory due to high levels of DDT and Toxaphene in certain fish.
- The advisory recommends that persons eat no more than two meals per month of buffalo, gar, carp, and large catfish (catfish greater than 22 inches in length) caught in Delta waters.
- Persons are advised not to eat any buffalo fish from Roebuck Lake in Leflore County.
- The advisory includes ALL water bodies east of the Mississippi River levee and west of the bluff hills.
- This advisory does **not** apply to waters located west of the mainstem Mississippi River levee. The Mississippi River is **not** covered by the advisory. The following specific waterbodies are **not** included in the advisory as well as many smaller unnamed lakes, bayous, and borrow pits located west (on the riverside) of the levee:

  - **Bolivar County**
    - Old River Lake
    - Legion Lake
    - Lake Beulah
    - Beulah Crevasse
    - Lake Vermillion
    - Lake Whittington
    - Mound Crevasse
    - Mud Lake
  - **Coahoma County**
    - Horseshoe Lake
    - Old River Chute
    - McWilliams Lake
  - **DeSoto County**
    - Horn Lake
    - Legion Lake
    - Lake Beulah
    - Beulah Crevasse
    - Lake Vermillion
    - Lake Whittington
    - Mound Crevasse
    - Mud Lake
  - **Issaquena County**
    - Old River Chute
    - Blue Hole
    - Fitler Lake
    - Tennessee Lake
  - **Tunica County**
    - Horn Lake Pass
    - Old River Chute
    - Blue Hole
    - Fitler Lake
  - **Warren County**
    - Pervis Lake
    - Halpino Lake
    - Forest Home Chute
    - Fish Lake
    - Brecount Lake
    - Centennial Lake
    - Washington County
    - Lake Ferguson
    - Lake Lee

**Fish Included in Advisory**

- Buffalo
- Carp
- Gar
- Large catfish (longer than 22 inches)

**Fish NOT Included in Advisory**

- Farm Raised Catfish
- Bass
- Bream
- Crappie
- Drum

**Fish Consumption Advisory**

- Eat no more than two meals per month of the affected fish
- For Roebuck Lake in Leflore County only, eat NO buffalo fish