

**THE CENTER FOR ORAL HISTORY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**  
**of**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**

**Recording Log**

**Interviewee:** Mr. Larry Ryan and his wife Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Ryan, residents of Mississippi, commercial crabbers on Gulf Coast

**Interviewer:** Stephanie Scull-DeArme

**Date of recording:** March 7, 2012

**Recording format/notes:** Recorded digitally in one file at Mr. and Mrs. Ryan's home.

**Recording length:**

**Location:** Mr. and Mrs. Ryan's home

**Subjects/Topics:** Fishing circa 1950s, 1960s; manually-facilitated nets, row boats for commercial fishing; gillnets; Mississippi Sound; locating fish without sonar; species in the Mississippi Sound; Biloxi bacon, popeye mullet; cooking fish at campsites on barrier islands; mullet stew; subsistence fishing; family of fishermen; regulations; crabs, oysters, shrimp; sponge crabs; BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster; pogy fish; fishing equipment; imported and farm-raised seafood; fuel costs; recreational fishermen; marketing catch; live-bait fishermen; sustainability issues of fisheries; Pascagoula River; oil dispersant; insurance issues; Hurricane Katrina; BP lost-income claims process; Mississippi Department of Marine Resources; freshwater diversion kills oysters; working for BP after Deepwater Horizon oil spill; Vessels of Opportunity; favorite seafood dishes.

**PLEASE NOTE: Regarding recording quality,** a grandchild was present during this interview. She went to sleep at time stamp 1:25:21.1 and woke up at time stamp 2:01:47.2. Before and after these time stamps, she was intermittently quiet, then noisy, then quiet again for most of the interview. There are expanses of recording where there is no background noise, and there are some places in the recording where the background noise is quite high.

<b>Time/ Counter</b>	<b>Topic</b>
0:01:01.7	<i>Note: Intermittent noise in background: grandchild present during interview</i> Personal history
0:01:44.8	Learning to fish
0:02:35.4	Manual nets, working on father's boat as a child
0:03:00.5	Gillnets
0:03:28.7	Marketing, hauling, and selling fish for four cents a pound

0:04:06.9	Gillnets, manual facilitation
0:04:52.5	Working on father's boat as a child
0:06:10.9	Learning to fish
0:06:35.5	Fishing in the Mississippi Sound
0:06:53.9	Finding fish without sonar
0:07:34.2	Species caught
0:07:46.6	Biloxi bacon, popeye mullet
0:08:56.4	Frying mullet, cooking at campsite
0:11:40.6	Mullet stew
0:12:33.1	Subsistence fishing
0:14:16.7	Father was a fisherman, grandfather was a fisherman
0:19:01.4	Hearing fish at night, aboard fishing boat
0:21:45.0	Regulations
0:22:40.8	Crabbing for a living
0:22:58.8	Effects of BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster on crabbing
0:25:57.4	Sponge crabs
0:27:07.1	Not seeing baby crabs after BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill
0:28:02.9	Working with BP after oil spill, sinking oil to bottom, poisoning bottom
0:29:37.2	Crabbing, summer of 2011
0:31:45.9	Description of crab pot
0:32:43.8	Pogy fish
0:34:04.1	Father and grandparents

0:36:46.6	Changes in equipment
0:37:50.3	Imported seafood
0:38:24.2	Regulations
0:39:11.5	Fuel costs
0:39:32.0	Species in Gulf during childhood, circa 1960s
0:40:47.8	Recreational fishermen
0:43:07.6	Meaning of seafood business to family
0:44:55.2	Marketing catch
0:47:38.3	Changes in fishing
0:47:57.1	Fishing laws, regulations
0:53:52.9	Live-bait fishermen seem exempt from some regulations
0:57:12.1	Sustainability issues
1:01:10.5	Changes in species, appearance of manatees
1:02:53.4	BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster
1:02:56.7	Crabbing
1:03:58.0	Oystering
1:05:59.5	Young crabs, crab reproductive process/sponge crabs
1:07:52.0	Shrimp, flats of Pascagoula River
1:08:36.4	Effects of oil, dispersant on Mississippi Sound
1:09:35.0	Oil dispersant around barrier islands
1:10:07.6	Oil on bottom of Mississippi Sound
1:11:32.1	Future without crabs, oysters; can't make a living

1:16:11.7	Family garden helps in hard times
1:18:24.4	Hogs in the Pascagoula River swamps
1:19:40.1	Insurance issues
1:21:31.8	Hurricane Katrina
1:22:07.5	High fuel costs
1:24:26.8	Money made before BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster
<b>1:25:21.1</b>	<b><i>Noise background at a minimum; grandchild goes to sleep</i></b>
1:25:21.1	BP settlements of \$25,000 for fishermen's losses
1:26:47.4	BP claims process, lawsuit, settlement
1:30:30.4	Dredgers destroy crab pots
1:34:58.6	Marketing seafood
1:35:47.1	Imported seafood
1:37:07.1	Pond-raised seafood
1:37:58.8	Hurricane Katrina
1:48:16.6	Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
1:49:03.7	Recovery from Hurricane Katrina, new boat
1:50:29.2	Mississippi Department of Marine Resources hired fishermen to transfer oysters after Hurricane Katrina, replanting oyster reefs
1:51:53.5	Opening of floodgates, freshwater diversion killed oysters
1:52:39.2	Loss of income
1:57:40.3	Preparing for a season of crabbing
1:59:20.1	Thoughts when hearing of BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill
2:01:16.3	Short crab season after oil spill

2:01:16.3	<i>Intermittent noise in background: grandchild awakes</i>
2:01:47.2	Working for BP
2:02:39.4	BP reneges on buy-out of fishermen's boats used in oil-contaminated waters
2:03:01.4	Decontamination of boats used in oil-contaminated waters
2:03:25.9	Television notification of BP work available to fishermen
2:03:59.6	Implementation of Vessels of Opportunity, too many recreational boats
2:07:25.5	Possible remedy to improve Vessels of Opportunity
2:08:11.2	Claims process with BP for lost income
2:12:25	Current status of crab fishery in Mississippi Sound
2:13:51.7	Ryan's vision of the future of the seafood industry in the Mississippi Sound/ Gulf of Mexico
2:17:22.8	Favorite seafood
2:19:59.2	Gillnets