

Flood Warning Is In Effect 

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Fisherman found dead near boat ramp in reservoir

By [WLBT.com Staff](#)

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SCOTT COUNTY, Miss. (WLBT) - A fisherman was discovered dead near a boat ramp in Scott County on Tuesday.

According to Scott County Coroner Hunter Wolfe, the body of 78-year-old William Lee Purvis was recovered by a dive team near the Low Head Dam boat ramp connected to the Ross Barnett Reservoir around 12:15 p.m.

Scott County Sheriff Mike Lee said a Gaming and Fishing officer noticed Purvis' truck on the boat ramp around 10 or 10:30 a.m. At the time, the truck was running, and no driver was inside.



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Reservoir authorities were able to use sonar technology to locate Purvis’ remains. The Rankin County Dive Team recovered it.

Lee does not suspect foul play. He said the boat likely had gotten away from the fisherman. When Purvis tried to retrieve it, he could have stepped into a deep area with a current.

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, the Scott County Sheriff’s Office, and the Rankin County Dive team responded to the incident.

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