

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby advertise their intent to **increase the possession limit up to three times the daily take for black bass (*Micropterus spp.*) below the saltwater line.**

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sports and Commercial Fishing

§149. Black Bass Regulations – Daily Take, Size Limits, and Possession Limits

A. ...

B. In addition, the commission establishes special size, daily take, and possession regulations for black bass on the following water bodies:

B.1. – B. ...

7. Below the saltwater line as described in R.S. 56:322 (A):

a. The possession limit shall be equal to the daily take limit for the number of consecutive days up to three days that a fisherman has been actively on the water or at a remote camp that can only be accessed by water provided the fisherman is in compliance with the following requirements.

1. The fisherman holds and is in possession of a current basic recreational fishing license.

2. The fisherman is in possession of a landing receipt from a public boat landing **located south of the saltwater line** that demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the department, the number of consecutive days the fisherman has been on the water or at a remote camp that can only be accessed by water.

3. The fish are kept whole or whole gutted in separate bags for each daily take limit. The bags are marked with the date fish were taken, the species and number of fish contained in the bag, and the name and recreational fishing license number of the person taking the fish

4. The fisherman is only in possession of his or her fish and shall not transport fish taken by another person back to the boat landing.

5. The fisherman is not in possession of more than the daily take limit on the water while engaged in or actively fishing.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325(C), R.S. 56:326.3 and R.S. 56:673.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 14:364 (June 1988), amended LR 17:277 (March 1991), repromulgated LR 17:488 (May 1991), amended LR 17:1122 (November 1991), LR 20:796 (July 1994), LR 23:1168 (September 1997), LR 24:505 (March 1998), LR 26:97 (January 2000), LR 28:104 (January 2002), LR 29:373 (March 2003), LR 30:2339 (October 2004), repromulgated LR 30:2495 (November 2004), amended LR 37:2440 (August 2011).

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statement, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

In accordance with Act No. 1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule to Mike Wood, Director, Inland Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to June 4, 2014.

Billy Broussard

Chairman