

OFFSHORE Reefs

Reef Site Name	Structure	Latitude	Longitude
Grand Isle 9	GI-09 #08	28° 11.3800'	89° 53.2820'
South Timbalier 130	ST-130 "E"	28° 41.4115'	90° 9.7425'
West Delta 134	WD-122 "C"	28° 44.3526'	89° 44.1626'
Ship Shoal 230	SS-230 "A"	28° 28.457'	91° 2.2366'
Eugene Island 313	EI-295 "B"	28° 15.3470'	91° 45.4279'
East Cameron 273	EC-286 "A"	28° 25.6213'	92° 39.746'
Ship Shoal 230	SS-230 "A"	28° 28.4576'	91° 2.248'
Main Pass 305	MP-305 "A"	28° 11.936'	88° 35.1691'
West Cameron 616/617	WC-618 "A"	28° 3.3145'	93° 18.6712'
South Marsh Island 146	SM-149 "A"	28° 13.3529'	91° 58.6275'

INSHORE Reefs

Reef Site Name	Bay	Latitude	Longitude
Finfish Reef 1	Lake Calcasieu	29° 58.140'	93° 18.062'
South Twin Span	Lake Pontchartrain	30° 10.169'	89° 50.744'
North Shore	Lake Pontchartrain	30° 16.296'	90° 03.753'
Independence Island	Barataria Bay	29° 18.450'	89° 56.002'
Bay Ronquille	Barataria Bay	29° 20.010'	89° 50.587'

Please note this list does not include all artificial reef sites.
For a complete listing of reef locations, visit:
<http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/artificial-reef-program>.



IF YOU BUILD IT,
FISH WILL COME...



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LOUISIANA
ARTIFICIAL
Reef
PROGRAM

OFFSHORE *Reefs*

The Rigs to Reefs Program was established to preserve critical fish habitat and provide fishing opportunities through the preservation of obsolete oil and gas platforms. Federal law and international treaty require these platforms be removed one year after production ceases. Companies can choose to participate in the Rigs to Reefs Program as an alternative to the traditional removal process, which typically results in a loss of artificial reef habitat.

In addition to the material, participating companies donate half of their realized savings over a traditional onshore removal into Louisiana's Artificial Reef Fund. The donated funds allow for the operation and maintenance of the program through the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

The program currently maintains over 60 reefs in the Gulf of Mexico, consisting of more than 300 obsolete oil and gas structures converted to permanent artificial reefs. The reefs are accessible from all parts of Louisiana's coast. The offshore program also includes reefs made from 40 armored personnel carriers and one offshore tugboat.



INSHORE *Reefs*

Inshore reefs are designed to optimize recreational opportunities, and these reefs are often constructed in partnership with other conservation organizations. Most inshore artificial reefs are constructed using one of three types of material:

Limestone/shell:

A majority of the state's inshore reefs, 21 sites, are constructed from limestone or shell. Limestone has become the material of choice because it is widely available, simulates a natural hard-bottom habitat and is an attractive option economically. In 2011, the Department developed a reef in the vicinity of the formerly emergent Independence Island, located approximately three miles northeast of Grand Isle. The Independence Island Reef is comprised of limestone and is roughly four acres in size.

Reef balls:

Reef balls are concrete half-globes with volleyball-size holes, providing a haven for marine life. LDWF used reef balls in Lake Pontchartrain to enhance historic oil field shell pads. There are currently six reef ball sites in Lake Pontchartrain.



Recycled concrete:

Thirty thousand cubic yards of recycled bridge material was used to create two, 4-acre reefs in Lake Pontchartrain, the first project of its kind in Louisiana. LDWF is currently working on the development of additional reefs using recycled concrete material in Lake Calcasieu and Breton Sound.



Interesting Facts

- Marine fisheries studies have documented that fish densities are 20 to 50 times higher near offshore platforms than in nearby open water.
- In 1999, the Rigs to Reefs Program created the world's largest artificial reef from the Freeport sulfur mine off the coast of Grand Isle. The reef sits in 42 to 50 feet of water seven miles offshore.
- For more information or reef locations, visit: www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/artificial-reef-program