

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby advertise their intent to place a moratorium on the commercial harvest from the wild of Razor-backed Musk Turtles and to revise regulations to be consistent with Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes

### Title 76

### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

### PART XV. REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

#### Chapter 1. Guidelines

#### §101. Recreational and Commercial Harvests; Prohibitions

A.-F. ...

G. Turtle Rules and Regulations

1. a.-d. ...

e. A reptile and amphibian collector's license is required to collect and sell turtles ~~or other reptiles and/or amphibians captured with legal commercial fishing gear or by other legal methods.~~

2. Restricted Turtles ~~Alligator Snapping Turtle~~  
~~(*Macrochelys temminckii*)~~

a. List of restricted turtles:

Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*)

Razor-backed Musk Turtle (*Sternotherus carinatus*)

Box Turtles (*Terrapene sp.*)

~~a. b. Commercial Prohibition. take prohibited.~~ No person shall commercially take, possess, sell, purchase, trade, barter, or exchange ~~alligator snapping turtles~~ restricted turtles, their eggs, or any parts thereof. Except that nothing herein shall prohibit the legal commercial sale, and possession of ~~alligator snapping turtles~~

restricted turtles by licensed Turtle Farmers as provided in R.S. 56:632 et seq. and R.S. 3:2358.1 et seq. which were legally acquired prior to the effective date of this ~~closure~~ prohibition or imported legally into this state which have proper records as provided for in 56:637.

~~c. b.~~ Recreational Take and Possession Limit: ~~There shall be no size limit on recreationally taken alligator snapping turtles (Macroclemys temmincki). Basic recreational fishing license is required as provided in R.S. 56:632.1.~~ Persons engaged in collection of native reptiles and amphibians shall be licensed in accordance with R.S.56:632.3 No person shall ~~take or possess an alligator snapping~~ restricted turtles taken with commercial gear. No person shall ~~take or possess~~ in the field more than one alligator snapping turtle ~~(Macroclemys temmincki), two box turtles or two razor-backed musk turtles per boat or vehicle per day.~~ No person shall possess more than four box turtles or four razor-backed musk turtles. Certified zoos, aquariums, universities, research and nature centers will be exempted from take limits.

H.-K. ...

L. Except as provided in Subsection K, whoever violates the provisions of this rule shall be ~~fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$100, or imprisoned for not less than 30 days, or both~~ subject to penalties as provided for in R.S. 56:31.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(10), (13), (15) and (25), R.S. 56:23, and R.S. 56:632.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 20:1135 (October 1994), amended LR 30: .

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

the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Buddy Baker, Coastal Natural Resources Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to -DATE-.

In accordance with Act #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).

-NAME-

Chairman

-NAME-

Secretary