

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

February 8, 2011

**STEPHEN W. SAGRERA
CHAIRMAN**

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting
and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings.

Tapes of the meetings are kept at the
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

For more information, call (225) 765-2806.

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
FEBRUARY 8, 2011

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Chairman Stephen Sagrera presiding.

Billy Broussard
Stephen Oats
Ann Taylor

Secretary Robert Barham was also present.

Commissioners Ronny Graham, Patrick Morrow and Mike Voisin were absent from the meeting.

Chairman Sagrera called for a motion for approval of the **January 6, 2011 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Oats and seconded by Commissioner Taylor. The motion passed with no opposition.

For **Commission Special Announcements/Personal Privilege** for this month, Chairman Sagrera recognized and welcomed Senator Joe McPherson and Dr. Keith Ouchley to the meeting. He then noted that Representative Reed Henderson called to request that the waters east of the Mississippi River remain closed for the oyster season.

To receive and hear Enforcement & Aviation Reports/January began with Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze stating that Sgt. Curt Belton's wife, Brooke, recently passed away having lost her battle with cancer and Captain Alan Bankston's wife, Sheryl, passed away the previous weekend. He then noted the month of January was the end of the hunting season throughout the state. A case of significance occurred in Region 2 where an individual decided to eradicate a nuisance animals problem by placing poison on carcasses and meat scrapes which killed more than 50 animals. For the month, there were 6 boating accidents reported with 4 injuries and 1 fatality. The fatality was still being investigated since the individual fell overboard, was able to get back in the boat but had a heart attack once he returned to the landing. The Department's three planes flew a total of 90 hours for the month of January. News Releases discussed

included recovering several stolen vessels in Sulphur area; West Monroe residents cited for deer hunting violations (night hunting); and 2 cases of over the limit of speckled trout. The Academy class will graduate on February 16 with 15 cadets and would be assigned to Strike Force duties throughout the state. Finally, Lt. Col. LaCaze then noted this would be his final report to the Commission since he would be retiring at the beginning of April. Chairman Sagrera, on behalf of the Commission, thanked Lt. Col. LaCaze for his 34 years and added it was a pleasure to work with him. Commissioner Oats asked him what he would do and Lt. Col. LaCaze stated he and his wife would be building a new home in his home town.

To consider Notice of Intent on DMAP Program Reorganization began with Mr. Scott Longman stating the reasons for the changes were as a result of requests from constituents to extend the season in certain areas; maintain the relevance of the program and make it an intensive type program for management of the resource; and to address Act 337 of the 2010 Regular Session. Act 337 asked the Department to do more intensive management and assist landowners with their habitat to have quality deer habitat and a quality hunting experience. The first change was to develop 4 different levels. The levels are: 1) intensive deer management; 2) traditional which was DMAP right now; 3) reporting; and 4) nuisance. Level 1 was available for qualifying properties so staff could work with the landowners to intensively manage their herd and habitat. Collection of data will be required, antlered and antlerless tags will be issued, and will allow for a season extension of up to 30 days. The reason for the extension will allow for additional hunting opportunities, to be able to hunt later in the season during the rut and also the chance to fill their antlerless tags. Level 2 was the current DMAP with data collection and staff working with landowners and leaseholders to manage their habitat for quality deer. Level 3 will be the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag Program with less data collections. Level 4 will be the existing nuisance program already in place. The next change involves a fee structure. The current DMAP fee is \$25 per application and a nickel per acre and for LADT, it is just the current \$25 application fee. Fees for Level 1 will be \$200 plus acreage fees which could be \$250 to \$300; Levels 2 and 3 could be \$150 to \$200. The fees will be used to defer the biologists' expense that will be doing more work on the lands. The last change will address the large corporate ownership and this gives them the opportunity to compile their leaseholders and have one DMAP ownership. Commissioner Broussard asked if there was a minimum size acreage for the property. Mr. Longman stated with Level 1

or 2, there was a 500 acre minimum. Then Commissioner Broussard asked if this would be mandatory high fence or free range and Mr. Longman stated it would be free range. Commissioner Broussard wondered how effective a landowner could manage if all adjoining property was not in DMAP. Mr. Longman stated staff did not want to raise the restrictions too high where landowners would not want to participate. Understanding Commissioner Broussard's concerns, Mr. Longman added this program was left up to the landowners to participate and noted they would work with the landowner and determine how realistic their goals may be. Commissioner Broussard asked how did this program differ from that in Texas and Mr. Longman could not answer. Commissioner Oats asked if a landowner could still enroll in Level 1 with a minimum of 500 acres and Mr. Longman answered yes. Commissioner Oats thought the intent was to deal with larger areas to manage. Mr. Longman explained that not everyone will want to get involved since it would be a controlled harvest. The smaller landowners would have to understand they may only get a few antlered tags which would be a negative point for them. Commissioner Oats felt if there were extra days given to Level 1 landowners, it would create a special class hunter that may have an advantage over other hunters. Mr. Longman felt that perception may exist, but staff would tell the landowners what their harvest will be. Commissioner Oats then stated his concerns were that 500 acres for Level 1 was small, the perception of creating a special category of hunters with extra days, and the fee schedule seemed low.

Senator Joe McPherson stated he supported the proposal. In response to the concerns of 500 acres, the Senator told about his experiences with his leased land in Vernon Parish and the successful quality deer program. He added that if a landowner would practice quality deer management and see the benefits from it, he would hope his neighbors get into the same practice scheme. Senator McPherson applauded the staff on developing the incentive concepts. He also echoed that this program was voluntary and felt it would give a hunter the chance to kill the deer of his lifetime. The proposal was very similar to what it was when talks began on the introduction of Florida bass and how this has been successful for the state. Senator McPherson felt this proposal was the next leap in the evolution of deer hunting in Louisiana. He then encouraged the Commission to approve the Notice of Intent and receive public comments.

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Oats made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and approved with no opposition.

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record.)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby advertise their intent to amend the regulations for the Deer Management Assistance Program.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds

§111. Rules and Regulations for Participation in the Deer Management Assistance Program

A. The following rules and regulations shall govern the Deer Management Assistance Program

1. Application Procedure

a. Application for enrollment of a new cooperator in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) must be submitted to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries by August 1. Application for the renewal enrollment of an active cooperator must be submitted to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries annually by September 1.

b. Applicants will select from 1 of 4 levels of DMAP participation. Level 1 participation is limited to qualifying clubs of 500 acres or more, and will require collection of complete harvest data, including jaw bone removal, weights, antler measurements, and checking females for lactation. Issuance of both antlered and antlerless tags will be mandatory. Level 2 participation is limited to clubs with 500 acres or more and will also require collection of complete harvest data. Antlerless tags only will be issued unless antlered tags are specifically requested and needed to meet

harvest objectives. Level 3 participation will be for tracts of 40 acres or larger, and only require recording the total number of male and female deer harvested. Only antlerless tags are available. Licensed Deer Farmers authorized to hunt deer by Department of Agriculture and Forestry and Department of Wildlife and Fisheries are eligible to participate in this level. Level 4 participation will only require recording the total number of male and female deer harvested and is only available for nuisance deer issues such as crop or lawn depredation. Only antlerless tags will be issued. There is no acreage minimum for level 4.

b c. Each application for a new cooperator must be accompanied by a legal description of lands to be enrolled and a map of the property. Renewal applications must be accompanied by a legal description and map only if the boundaries of the enrolled property have changed from records on file from the previous hunting season. This information will remain on file in the appropriate regional Ecoregion Field office. ~~The applicant must have under lease or otherwise control a minimum of 500 acres of contiguous deer habitat of which up to 250 acres may be agricultural lands, provided the remainder is in forest and/or marsh. Private lands within Wildlife Management Area boundaries shall be enrolled in DMAP regardless of size.~~

d. Fee Schedule

i. Level 1 - \$200 + \$50-100, dependent on acreage;

(a). >500 but <1,500 acres, additional \$50;

(b). >1,500 acres but <10,000 acres, additional \$100

(c). >10,000 acres but <20,000 acres - \$500;

(d). >20,000 acres but <50,000 acres - \$1,500;

(e). >50,000 acres but <75,000 acres - \$2,500;

(f). >75,000 acres - \$3,750 minimum, to

be negotiated.

ii. Level 2 - \$100 + \$50-100, dependent on acreage;

(a). >500 but <1,500 acres, additional \$50;

(b). >1,500 acres but <10,000 acres, additional \$100

(c). >10,000 acres but <20,000 acres - \$500;

(d). >20,000 acres but <50,000 acres - \$1,500;

(e). >50,000 acres but <75,000 acres - \$2,500;

(f). >75,000 acres - \$3,750 minimum, to be negotiated.

iii. Level 3 - \$100 + \$50-100, dependent on acreage;

(a). <500 acres, no additional cost;

(b). >500 but <1,500 acres, additional \$50;

(c). >1,500 acres but <10,000 acres, additional \$100

(d). >10,000 acres but <20,000 acres - \$500;

(e). >20,000 acres but <50,000 acres - \$1,500;

(f). >50,000 acres but <75,000 acres - \$2,500;

(g). >75,000 acres - \$3,750 minimum, to be negotiated.

iv. Level 4 - no fee.

~~e e.~~ Each ~~cooperator~~ will be assessed a \$25 enrollment fee and \$.05/acre for participation in the program. DMAP fees must be paid by ~~invoice~~ to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Fiscal Section prior to September 15.

~~d f.~~ An agreement must be completed and signed by the official representative of the cooperator and submitted to the appropriate ~~regional wildlife~~ Ecoregion Field office for approval. This agreement must be completed and signed annually.

~~e g.~~ Boundaries of lands enrolled in DMAP shall be clearly marked and posted with DMAP signs in compliance with R.S. 56:110 and the provisions of R.S. 56:110 are only applicable to property enrolled in DMAP. DMAP signs shall be removed if the land is no longer enrolled in DMAP. Rules and regulations for compliance with R. S. 56:110 are as follows:

i. The color of DMAP signs shall be orange. The words DMAP and Posted shall be printed on the sign in letters no less than 4" (four inches) in height. Signs may be constructed of any material and minimum size is 11 1/4" x 11 1/4".

ii. Signs will be placed at 1000 foot intervals around the entire boundary of the property and at every entry point onto the property.

~~f h.~~ By enrolling in the DMAP, cooperators agree to allow Department personnel access to their lands for management surveys, investigation of violations and other inspections deemed appropriate by the Department. The person listed on the DMAP application as the contact person will serve as the liaison between the DMAP Cooperator and the Department.

~~g i.~~ Each cooperator that enrolls in DMAP is strongly encouraged to provide keys or lock combinations annually to the Enforcement Division of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for access to main entrances of the DMAP property. Provision of keys is voluntary. However, the cooperator's compliance will ensure that DMAP enrolled properties will be properly and regularly patrolled.

~~h j.~~ Large acreage ownerships ~~landowners~~ (>10,000 acres) may further act as cooperators and enroll additional non-contiguous tracts of land deemed sub-cooperators. Sub-cooperators shall be defined by the large acreage ownerships

~~landowner~~ lease agreements. Non-contiguous sub-cooperator lands enrolled by large acreage ownerships will have the legal description and a map included for those parcels enrolled as sub-cooperators. Sub-cooperators shall be subject to the same requirements, rules and regulations as cooperators. ~~The \$25 enrollment fee will be waived for sub-cooperators when the sub-cooperator land is included in the cooperator's enrollment acreage.~~

k. Level 1 DMAP Cooperators may hunt deer with modern firearms for up to an additional 30 days where sufficient breeding data exists and supports such an extension. The additional days may be allocated prior to, afterwards, or in combination of both, relative to the regular Area season.

2. Tags

a. A fixed number of special tags will be provided by the Department to each cooperator/sub-cooperator in DMAP to affix to deer taken as authorized specified by the program participation level. ~~These tags shall be used only on DMAP lands for which the tags were issued. These tags shall be used during all seasons. Tags are only authorized on DMAP lands for which the tags were issued.~~

~~b. All antlerless deer (and antlered deer if special antlered tags are issued) taken shall be tagged, including those taken during archery and primitive firearms seasons, and on either sex days of gun season.~~

~~e~~ b. Each hunter must have a tag in his possession while hunting on DMAP land in order to harvest an antlerless deer (or ~~an~~ antlered deer if ~~special antlered tags are issued~~ antlered deer tags are issued) deer. The tag shall be attached through the hock in such a manner that it cannot be removed before the deer is transported. The DMAP tag will remain with the deer so long as the deer is kept in the camp or field, is ~~in route~~ enroute to the domicile of its possessor, or until it has been stored at the domicile of its possessor, or divided at a cold storage facility and has become identifiable as food rather than as wild game. The DMAP number shall be recorded on the possession tag of the deer or any part of the animal when divided and properly tagged.

~~d~~ c. DMAP tagged antlered or antlerless ~~Antlerless~~ deer harvested on property enrolled in DMAP do not count in the daily or season bag limit ~~for hunters~~.

~~e. Special antlered deer tags may be issued on property enrolled in DMAP to increase the antlered deer harvest if a Regional or Deer Program biologist deems it necessary for herd health or habitat management purposes. DMAP tagged antlered deer will not count in the daily or season bag limits.~~

f d. All unused tags shall be returned by March 1 to the ~~regional wildlife~~ Ecoregion Field office which issued the tags.

3. Records

a. Cooperators/sub-cooperators are responsible for keeping accurate records on forms provided by the Department for all deer harvested on lands enrolled in the program. Mandatory information includes tag number, sex of deer, date of kill, name of person taking the deer, ~~hunting license number~~ LDWF i.d. number (~~transaction number, authorization number, lifetime number or date of birth for under 16 and over 59 years of age~~) and biological data (age, weight, antler measurements, lactation) as deemed essential by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Deer Section. Biological data collection must meet quality standards established by the Deer Section. Documentation of mandatory information shall be kept daily by the cooperator/sub-cooperator. Additional information may be requested depending on management goals of the cooperator/sub-cooperator.

b. Information on deer harvested shall be submitted by March 1 to the ~~regional wildlife~~ Ecoregion Field office handling the particular cooperator/sub-cooperator.

c. The contact person shall provide this documentation of harvested deer to the Department upon request. Cooperators/sub-cooperators who do not have a field camp will be given 48 hours to provide this requested documentation.

B. Suspension and cancellation of DMAP Cooperators/Sub-Cooperators

1. Failure of the cooperator/sub-cooperator to follow these rules and regulations may result in suspension and cancellation of the program on those lands involved. Failure to make a good faith attempt to follow harvest recommendations may also result in suspension and cancellation of the program.

a. Suspension of cooperator/sub-cooperator from DMAP. Suspension of the cooperator/sub-cooperator from DMAP, including forfeiture of unused tags, will occur immediately for any misuse of tags, failure to tag any antlerless deer, or failure to submit records to the Department for examination in a timely fashion. Suspension of the cooperator/sub-cooperator, including forfeiture of unused tags, may also occur immediately if other DMAP rules or wildlife regulations are violated. Upon suspension of the cooperator/sub-cooperator from DMAP, the contact person may request a Department of Wildlife and Fisheries hearing within 10 working days to appeal said suspension. Cooperation by the DMAP cooperator/sub-cooperator with the investigation of the violation will be taken into account by the Department when considering cancellation of the program following a suspension for any of the above listed reasons. The cooperator/sub-cooperator may be allowed to continue with the program on a probational status if, in the judgement of the Department, the facts relevant to a suspension do not warrant cancellation.

b. Cancellation of cooperator/sub-cooperator from DMAP. Cancellation of a cooperator/sub-cooperator from DMAP may occur following a guilty plea or conviction for a DMAP rule or regulation violation by any individual or member hunting on the land enrolled in DMAP. The cooperator/sub-cooperator may not be allowed to participate in DMAP for one year following the cancellation for such guilty pleas or conviction. Upon cancellation of the cooperator/sub-cooperator from DMAP, the contact person may request an administrative hearing within 10 working days to appeal said cancellation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 17:204 (February 1991), amended LR 25:1656 (September 1999), LR 26:2011 (September 2000), LR 30:2496 (November 2004), LR 34:1427 (July 2008), LR 35:1910 (September 2009), LR 37: .

§119. Rules and Regulations for Participation in the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag Program

Repealed.

~~A. The following rules and regulations shall govern the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag (LADT) Program:~~

~~1. Eligibility: The following landowners or lessees-~~

~~are eligible to participate in this program.~~

~~a. Licensed Deer Farmers authorized to hunt deer by Department of Agriculture and Forestry and Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF).~~

~~b. Landowners or lessees with less than 500 acres who have verified deer depredation problems and have met all of the requirements of LDWF as stated in the Nuisance Deer Management Program and who are dependent upon this commercial crop as a major source of income.~~

~~e. Landowners with 40 acres or more enrolled in the Louisiana Forest Stewardship Program and who have a written wildlife management plan on file with LDWF.~~

~~d. Landowners or lessees with 40 or more contiguous acres of forested or marsh land.~~

~~2. Application Procedure~~

~~a. Application for enrollment in the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag Program must be submitted to the Regional Office, Deer Program personnel, or Forest Stewardship Program personnel of LDWF prior to September 1. The application will become an official agreement between the applicant and LDWF.~~

~~b. Each applicant will be assessed a \$25 administrative processing fee which must be paid prior to October 1. Applicant must identify the enrolled property on a Louisiana road atlas that will be kept on file in the Region Office.~~

~~e. By enrollment in this program the applicant agrees to allow LDWF personnel access to their land for management surveys, investigations of violations and other inspections deemed appropriate by the Department.~~

~~d. Boundaries of lands enrolled in the LADT program shall be clearly marked and posted with LADT or DMAP signs. Signs will be placed at 1000 foot intervals around the entire boundary of the property and at every point onto the property. Signs shall be removed if the land is no longer enrolled in the program. The color of the LADT sign shall be white, with the words LADT and Posted printed on the sign in letters no less than four inches. The minimum sign size is 11 1/4" x 11 1/4".~~

3.—Tags

a.—A fixed number of Landowner Antlerless Deer Tags will be provided by the department to each applicant that must be attached to each antlerless deer harvested during the regular deer season. These tags can be used only on the land for which they were issued and must be attached to all antlerless deer killed during the entire deer season including special either sex days. Tag allotment for each applicant will be determined by Deer Program personnel.

b.—The total harvest of antlerless deer is restricted to that number of antlerless deer for which tags were issued. Once the number of antlerless deer for which tags were issued have been killed, all deer hunting will then be for bucks only, even though there may be either sex days later in the season for the area at large. No additional tags will be issued to the applicant.—

e.—Each hunter must have the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag in his possession while hunting on the property for which the tag was issued and immediately upon kill of an antlerless deer, the hunter must tag the animal through the hock. The deer must be tagged before it is transported from the site of kill and the tag will remain with the deer while the hunter is in route to his domicile. The tag number will be recorded on the possession tag for the deer or any part(s) of the animal when divided and properly tagged among other individuals.

d.—Antlerless deer harvested on property enrolled in LADT do not count in the daily or season bag limit for hunters.

4.—Records

a.—Approved applicants will keep daily records for all deer harvested as required by LDWF personnel. This information along with any unused tags will be submitted to the Regional Office, the Deer Program, or Forest Stewardship Program personnel by March 1. Information will include: Date of kill; Name of hunter; Social Security number of hunter; Hunting license # of hunter, if applicable; Sex of animal; Landowner Antlerless Tag Number. Additional biological information from harvested deer may be required of some applicants for management purposes.—

~~b. Approved applicants will provide documentation of harvested deer during the season to Department personnel upon request. Applicants will be given 48 hours to provide this requested information.~~

~~5. Cancellation of Program~~

~~a. Failure of the approved applicant or other persons permitted to hunt on this property to follow these rules and regulations may result in cancellation of the program.~~

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 26:2011 (September 2000), amended LR 27:1935 (November 2001), LR 30:2497 (November 2004), LR 34:1443 (July 2008), repeal LR 37: .

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m., Thursday, May 5, 2011 to Mr. Scott Durham, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA, 70898-9000.

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.

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).

Stephen W. Sagrera
Chairman

The next agenda item, **To consider Notice of Intent on Methods of Payment for Commercial Licenses and Oyster Tags** was handled by Mrs. Janis Landry. Mrs. Landry stated this proposal lists cash, money order, cashier's check, business check certified by an issuing bank and credit cards (MasterCard, Discover Card or American Express) as the methods accepted for of payment for commercial licenses and oyster tags. This will be accepted in

person at the Baton Rouge office. Hearing no questions, Commissioner Oats made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent and it was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. The motion was unanimously approved.

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record.)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules and regulations relative to credit card or business checks purchases. Authority to establish such rules and regulations is vested in the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission by R.S. 56:642(C).

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 4. License and License Fees

§413. Methods of Payment for Commercial Licenses and Oyster Tags

A. Commercial licenses and oyster tags may be purchased using the following forms of payment:

1. Cash;
2. Money Order;
3. Cashier's Check;
4. Business Checks certified by the issuing bank; and
5. Credit Cards (MasterCard, American Express, or Discover only).

B. Payment by credit card will be allowed only by the card holder at the Baton Rouge Licensing location with the credit card present at the time of purchase.

C. No other forms of payment will be accepted.

Authority Note: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:642(C).

Historical Note: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR

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 written comments on the proposed rule to: Janis Landry, Licensing Manager, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898 prior to Thursday, April 7, 2011.

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 in R.S. 49:972(B).

Stephen W. Sagrera
Chairman

To consider Notice of Intent on 2011-13 Hunting Seasons and To consider Notice of Intent on 2011-12 General & WMA Hunting Rules and Regulations were presented together by Mr. Randy Myers. If adopted, the 2 proposals would be put out for public comment, a series of public meetings will be held throughout the state in March and the Commission will accept comments up through the May meeting. Mr. Myers stated some of the changes were to simplify and clarify language, to delete any redundant or unneeded wording and provide additional hunting opportunities where possible. The dates for resident small game animals for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 seasons will be calendar adjustments. The next change would involve combining Deer Areas 1 and 4 for the 2012-13 season which have similar breeding dates with Richland and East Carroll Parishes and portions of Morehouse and Ouachita Parishes having still hunt seasons. Also for the 2012-13 season, additional primitive firearm hunting will be allowed in Areas 1 and 6 and the previous Area 4 to the end of January.

Deer Areas 1 and 6 will have calendar adjustments for 2011-2012; Areas 2 and 3 will have calendar adjustments for 2011-12 and 2012-13 seasons; Areas 4 and 5 for 2011-12 will be calendar adjustments, but for 2012-13 deer hunting in Area 4 will be the same as Area 1 and Area 5 will have calendar adjustment. For 2011-12 season, East Carroll and West Carroll Parishes will have either-sex seasons; but East Carroll will not have either-sex days for 2012-13 seasons, their dates will be the same as outside season with Area 1. Deer Areas 7 and 8 will be calendar adjustments. With the change to the DMAP regulations, the references to the LADT would be removed from the proposals. Changes to the general deer hunting regulations began with modifying the deer tagging program by removing the requirement hunters must record their validation numbers after validating their license and extending the time a hunter must validate their kill from 3 days to 7 days. References to a "legal buck" have been replaced with an "antlered deer" and removing the redundant language on Thistlewaite WMA antler restriction and keeping it under the WMA regulations. The Federal Government has made a change on the take of black birds, cowbirds, grackles and crows that now requires hunters to use non-toxic shot under a special depredation order. Also an annual report must be filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This requirement will also be in effect for those who hunt those birds on wildlife management areas. Commissioner Broussard asked where did this requirement come from and Mr. Myers stated this was from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Commissioner Oats asked how did the federal government get jurisdiction over crows and Mr. Myers stated all birds listed are migratory birds. Going on with changes, Mr. Myers noted during the last legislative session, a change in wording was made from electronically operated sights to laser sights. The next change was on the wording on the take of nuisance animals and other outlawed quadrupeds at night on private property. Commissioner Oats asked if there has been any discussion on the taking of feral hogs with a .22 and wanted to hear comments on this change. Mr. Myers stated the Department does allow by permit the take of hogs by other means. Commissioner Broussard asked if the way to get the caliber restriction changed was through an act of the legislature and Mr. Myers answered yes.

Next Mr. Myers talked about changes on the wildlife management areas. The first change clarified the language which allows firearms on WMAs. On Self-Clearing Permits, the permit was a 3 part process (check-in, check-out and vehicle tag), and the change was to remove the vehicle tag restriction. The next request was to establish limited access areas on Joyce and

Manchac WMAs. The total area for limited access on Joyce WMA will be 1 percent and 7 percent on Manchac WMA. On Joyce WMA, the limited access will be year round, but Manchac will be restricted from September 1 through January 31. Mr. Myers showed a map of Joyce WMA and explained the reason for the limited access. The additional use of mudboat-type conveyances were increasing the subsidence rate on Joyce WMA. Next shown was a map of Manchac WMA and the 550 acre area known as the Prairie which would be set aside for limited access from September 1 through January 31. Staff also recommended eliminating the second 3-day firearm, either-sex deer season on Attakapas WMA; adjust the second weekend of the waterfowl general lottery hunt on Bayou Pierre to the first weekend of the second split and add an additional weekend the fourth weekend of the second split; modify the youth deer hunt on Big Lake WMA to a designated portion and allow other hunters to use the remaining portion, and modify the opening day of modern firearm bucks only season to the third Saturday of December which allows an additional 5 days for the primitive firearm season; add an additional 7 days to the primitive firearms season on Boeuf WMA; change the opening day of bucks only on Buckhorn WMA to the third Saturday of December and add an additional 5 days to the primitive firearm season. The law on open livestock changed during the last legislative session which results in Clear Creek, Little River and West Bay WMAs having a feral hog season that will open the first day of the bow season through the end of February and a feral hog-dog season from February 1 through the end of February by permit only. Elm Hall WMA will have a rabbit with beagle and squirrels with dog season beginning the day after the close of the primitive firearm season to the end of February. Floy McElroy WMA will have a special 2-day either-sex deer hunt for Beyond Becoming an Outdoors Woman graduates; Grassy Lake will have a reduce the number of firearms bucks only days from 16 to 9 days which will put this WMA more in line with Three Rivers and Red River WMAs; add a second day of mandatory deer check for Maurepas Swamp WMA; eliminate the date restriction to harvest crawfish on Ouachita WMA; eliminate the mandatory deer check and modify the road closure on Pearl River WMA; modify the fall lottery turkey season on Peason Ridge WMA; add a 3 day youth lottery deer hunt on Red River WMA; restrict small game hunting to shotgun on the Chauvin Tract of Russell Sage WMA; modify the language for waterfowl hunting on the South Farm of Sherburne WMA; add an additional 5 days of primitive firearm season to Sicily Island WMA; establish 2 zones for Soda Lake on the east and west side of Twelve Mile Bayou. The east side of Soda Lake will have small game hunting and a season for rabbit hunting with beagles and dogs allowed for squirrel

hunting. The west side of Soda Lake will be falconry only. Additional changes included: eliminate the mandatory deer check on Spring Bayou WMA; eliminate the hand gun restriction on the North Tract of Tunica Hills WMA; and establish a limited use area (150-200 acres) on West Bay WMA by using shotgun only for small game and archery only for deer. Changes on the Corps of Engineers property were mainly for the youth and physically challenged hunts. Old River and Bonnet Carre Spillway areas only had calendar adjustments. Kisatchie National Forest issued a notice that all deer hunting will be still hunting only which will eliminate the use of dogs for deer hunting. With that change, additional deer hunting (still hunting only) opportunities will occur earlier in November. Another change was to clarify the language on using dogs for other seasons during an open deer season on the Forest. The other seasons will be calendar adjustments. Then Mr. Myers concluded stating there will be 6 public hearings during March in Alexandria, Minden, Opelousas, Pontchatoula, Bastrop and Lake Charles.

Chairman Sagrera asked the reason for validating deer tags. Mr. Myers stated that was needed since the biological information that was gathered could be used to make management decisions on a parish level. Chairman Sagrera asked if in the future, enough information was gained from the validation tags, the validation could be eliminated. Mr. Myers felt he could not answer that question since he did not know how much data would be enough. Chairman Sagrera reminded everyone that Mr. Myers' presentation was on agenda items 6 and 7. Commissioner Oats made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent on the 2011-13 hunting seasons and it was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. At this point, public comments were accepted.

Mr. Wayne Sibley asked if the rabbit season in January on Sherburne WMA was lost due to extending the deer season. He felt the deer would have better horns the next year instead of allowing them to be harvested during February. Mr. Sibley wanted his fair share for the rabbit season - February is their season.

Mr. Randy Guidroz, President of Louisiana Rabbit Hunters Association, echoed Mr. Sibley's comments. He asked for fairness by leaving things as they are. February should be the month for rabbit hunting. He also echoed Commissioner Broussard's concern about the 500 acre DMAP tracts.

Mr. Bryan Abadie felt the reintroduction of the whooping crane to the state was a major accomplishment. He talked about the

black bear in Louisiana and seeing their first bear during the hunting season. These opportunities were happening due to collecting good biological data and utilizing sound management practices. Mr. Abadie felt there were continuing struggles with applying biological data and sound management practices when it came to deer hunting in Area 6. He suggested moving the beginning of the season back to correspond with the same type of season in southwest Louisiana. He then felt the biological data on rabbits should be looked into also and not open that season until the first of December and run into the middle of March. He knew that they miss the second rut in Area 6 and a good part of the first rut.

Mr. Joseph Guidroz reminded the Commission that during last year's hearings 327 comments were made with 307 opposed to pushing the season back. The Commission listened and decided to leave the seasons alone. Mr. Guidroz then talked about extending the deer season into February and felt hunters know when the primary and secondary ruts occur and if they are hunted, a few trophy deer may be taken. Mr. Guidroz added that he felt the reason for extending the season was money. On DMAP lands, the more trophy deer killed, the more money that land will be worth. He reminded the staff that the licenses are bought by the average person and when those licenses are not bought, then some employees would be out of a job.

Mr. David Dellucci stated he has a highly managed piece of property and has watched the rut start at the end of December and early January. His concern was the number of does were causing the second rut to be later and later each year. If does are shot early in the season, you have a closer buck to doe ratio which allows the dominant bucks to breed. If the does were harvested in February, then 3 deer would be killed instead of 1. The hunting pressure even in February would force the dominant bucks to stay bedded down which would allow the inferior bucks to breed.

Mr. Barney Callahan stated he was speaking on his own behalf and not for those organizations he may have been associated with. He noted he is a deer hunter in Area 6 along the coastal parishes and into Ascension. Mr. Callahan stated the actual definition from a conservation standpoint of "management" was to not shoot, but with DMAP, the biologists say the more you shoot, the better off you will be. Hunting clubs look to the Department to manage the wildlife through rules and regulations, but Mr. Callahan stated he has seen a steady decline in numbers and a slight increase in quality. He added he would like to see

some type of quality management on his hunting lease which may be along the line of minimum antlered restriction. He then asked the Commission to consider using .22 caliber or a smaller weapon for hunting nuisance animals at night. Using a smaller caliber such as .17 caliber could have a lot less risk of the bullet traveling where it should not go. Mr. Callahan then talked about the access to the Maurepas Swamp WMA and private property through I-10 has been restricted by the State of Louisiana. He then challenged the Department to look at alternative options to get more access to that WMA. Finally, Mr. Callahan congratulated Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze on his retirement and stated he has been an asset to all of the organizations he represented.

Mr. Trent Hollingsworth stated the decision to stop deer dog hunting on Kisatchie National Forest has been a battle for the past 3 years. If this ruling gets tied in the courts, what would the Commission's stance be on dog hunting. Chairman Sagraera stated past Commissions have supported deer dog hunting, but he did not know the legal process. Commissioner Broussard felt it may be up to what the people that use the property want. Mr. Hollingsworth added that Kisatchie was one of the only national forests that their seasons does not correspond with outside.

Mr. W. J. Cointment stated he has been hunting Manchac for about 40 years and added that the old people keep being restricted. He knew he could not take his grandchildren in a pirogue and paddle out on Manchac since it was too dangerous. If you restrict one end of Manchac and all hunters go to the other end, you will have a safety issue. His go-devil allows him to take his grandchildren to hunt waterfowl over decoys and with a trained lab. He then asked if the restriction "no combustible engine" meant in your possession or in operation. Mr. Cointment then complimented the enforcement agents and biologists in the area for being very helpful in getting his sunken boat out.

Mr. Ronald Bordelon and Mr. Louis Craig Callie were against the proposal in item 6.

Mr. James Caskey, Mr. Thomas LeBlanc, Mr. Darryl Stevens, Mr. John Fresina, Mr. Danny Aucoin, and Mr. Larry Heitmeier asked that the rabbit season remain as it is now.

Mr. John Lieux echoed the sentiments of Mr. Cointment on Manchac. He also has hunted Manchac for more than 40 years. Mr. Lieux asked the purpose for closing the area to hunting and

Commissioner Taylor felt it was to keep the ducks on the property. He knew that ducks were smart and that if shooting occurred in one area, within a week they would be gone. Mr. Lieux felt this would be a nightmare and would be practically impossible. He predicted that there would be no duck hunting in 4 years if this proposal passed. On the idea of marsh degradation, Mr. Lieux stated he has not seen that in 40 years, he found it very lush and healthy.

Mr. Milford Fryer was opposed to the proposal for item #7 and asked that his letter be entered into the record.

Mr. Jim Caldwell, Kisatchie National Forest, stated that the mother of one of the Department agent's wife that recently passed away works for the Forest Service and he appreciated the turnout at the funeral. The action to eliminate deer dog hunting on Kisatchie was done through a forest plan amendment along with an environmental assessment that received over 1200 comments. The Regional Forester decided in December to eliminate deer dog hunting with those days being replaced with still hunting only days. There was a 45 day appeal period and they have received several appeals as well as Freedom of Information Act requests. Commissioner Oats asked what was the basis for the additional days. Mr. Caldwell stated they did not want to decrease the number of days hunters can hunt on Kisatchie and that they were at the best times for a hunter to shoot a deer. Commissioner Oats thought the presentation showed the number of hunting days on Kisatchie would increase and Mr. Caldwell commented they did increase the number of days.

The motion on the Notice of Intent for the 2011-13 hunting seasons passed with no opposition. Then Commissioner Oats made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent on the General and WMA Hunting Rules and Regulations and it was seconded by Commissioner Taylor.

An Unidentified Speaker echoed the comments made on Manchac WMA. He said it was a unique area and the hunters felt the regulation was singling out older people that have a hard time getting to the area. Commissioner Oats stated he was hearing the comments, but noted the staff was trying to provide a balance and still allow access for motorized vessels. The speaker stated they were balancing too much. Commissioner Oats asked to describe the hunters that use the area, were they older people. The speaker could not say what the age of the hunters were.

Mr. Chris Davis, a retired Department biologist, stated he was

the person who initiated the proposal on Manchac. The two purposes for this action was to minimize the disturbance of the waterfowl on the area and to help with siltation due to the constant use of mudboats covering the vegetation and removing the food sources. Mr. Davis went to the area in the early 1990's after being away for a while and he paddled his pirogue into the Prairie and found over 1000 gadwalls there. During the opening weekend, he worked the check station and they only checked 1 gadwall. The harvest data during the 1990's averaged about 237 birds, but over the last 10 years, the average was down to about 105. Mr. Davis did not think the decrease was just due to the mudboat activity, but felt some was related to that. The advent of the pro-drives complicated the issue. The original idea was to close the entire Prairie to paddle only, but after talking with hunters, staff developed the dividing line to allow the older hunters the motorized vessels. As far as safety, Mr. Davis stated this has been self-limiting in the past.

Hearing no further questions, the motion passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Notices of Intent are made part of the record and are attached as Attachment A.)

Mr. Paul Link, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Coordinator, presented the next agenda item, **To hear Waterfowl Season Zone Options for Public Comment** on behalf of Mr. Larry Reynolds. He began stating the state has been zoned with a West and East Zone for the last 30 years. Typically the West Zone opens earlier to take advantage of early migrating species and the East Zone closes as late as allowed to maximize hunting opportunities for later migrants. Zones and splits can only be changed at 5 year intervals. The current framework can be changed this year, but a decision was needed by July. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has given the state 3 options to choose from: the current 2 zones with split seasons in one or both zones; 3 zones with straight seasons; or no zones with up to 2 split seasons. But this year, 2 additional options may be offered if officially approved by the federal government. The 2 new options included 4 zones with straight seasons and 3 zones with the option of split seasons. If one of the new options was chosen, some specific human dimensions objectives was needed to determine what the new option may accomplish, such as increase in hunter satisfaction, increase in license sales or increase in hunter participation. Results of the 2005 hunter opinion survey showed 53 percent favored the current 2 zones with split

seasons, 41 percent favored no zones with 2 splits and 6 percent favored 3 zones with straight seasons. Next, Mr. Link talked about responses from the 2010 hunter opinion survey. Results were based on about 900 responses. Approximately 3/4 of the people favored the 2 zones with split season option. General issues to consider was then discussed by Mr. Link. He stated the potential hunting season lengths over the next 5 years was 60, 45 or 30 days. Also, there was a need to consider that duck season must be open during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays. And then there was the consideration of what option would provide the greatest flexibility. The last consideration was what was trying to be accomplished and what will be required for the evaluation. Specific considerations for the 2 zones and splits was that it was familiar to the hunters having been in place for over 30 years, allows hunters to hunt in both zones and allows for flexibility. Under the option no zones with 2 splits, there will be 3 opening days, but one of the opening dates may not be on a weekend, this would allow for 2 rest periods as opposed to the current 1, it removes the opportunity to move across zones and have less flexibility. Mr. Link then gave some hypothetical situations between the no zones and 3 splits and the 2 zones with 2 splits. The option of 3 zones with split seasons may allow for zone jumpers and allow additional flexibility. Staff looked at the harvest data based on comments received from hunters and their wanting to have an earlier or later season. The highest harvest rate occurred during the first 3 weeks of the season which indicated there was no reason to have a separate zone or moving the southeast parishes back into the east zone. The Department will make a recommendation based on the public comments during the July Commission Meeting with a decision to be made at the August Meeting.

To hear Presentation of Annual Stock Assessment Report for Striped Mullet began with Mr. Jason Adriance stating this was an annual report that must be sent to the legislature annually. In recent years, the harvest of striped mullet has declined with the 2009 harvest just under 200,000 pounds (lowest since 1976) and the 2010 season was expected to be slightly better. The assessment was reviewed internally and by outside experts from the Gulf States and their comments and suggestions have been incorporated into the document. Commissioner Broussard asked if the decline in catch was reflective of what has occurred across state lines and Mr. Adriance stated this has occurred around the Gulf Coast with fuel prices increasing or Hurricane Katrina. Then Commissioner Broussard felt this was not due to availability but to fishermen not going out. He then asked what

region of the state has the majority of the striped mullet and he was told it primarily came the mouth of the Mississippi River in southeast Louisiana. Last question from Commissioner Broussard was what months were mullet fished and found out that the season runs from the third Monday of October to the third Monday in January.

Mr. Marty Bourgeois handled the next agenda item, **To consider Declaration of Emergency to Close Certain State Waters to the use of Crab Traps for Purposes of Removing Derelict Crab Traps.** He began stating staff has been involved with the derelict crab trap removal program since 2004. Mr. Bourgeois then defined a derelict crab trap and explained why they were left. A table showing the crab trap clean-up results from 2004 to 2010 was shown, with an overall total of 18,500 traps collected. There have been 12 areas impacted by the closures and a map was shown with those areas marked. This program was initially designed to be a volunteer based program, but that changed over the years. Traps collected by the staff represents about 50 percent of the total, followed by commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, agencies and university and then others. The area to be closed would be a portion of Plaquemines Parish west of the Mississippi River and would be effective from February 26 to March 5. Any traps found in the closure area would be considered abandoned and could be removed by anyone but cannot be possessed outside of the closure area. The Department will partner with the Plaquemines Parish Government in removing the traps. Hearing no questions, Commissioner Oats made a motion to adopt the Declaration of Emergency, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously approved.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Crab Trap Closure and Derelict Crab Trap Clean-Up

February 8, 2011

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to

close seasons when faced with imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare and R.S. 56:332(N) which provides the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission with authority to establish a program to remove abandoned crab traps from state-owned lake and river beds and other water bottoms of the state, and to prohibit the use of crab traps and for the removal of crab traps and their disposal during a maximum sixteen-consecutive-day period between February first and March thirty-first in one or more geographical areas of the state, and to specify the beginning and ending dates for the prohibition on the use of crab traps, and to specify the geographical area within which the use of crab traps shall be prohibited, and to specify who is authorized to remove the abandoned traps, and authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to designate the locations where removed and abandoned traps are to be placed for disposal, the Commission hereby declares:

The use of crab traps shall be prohibited from 6:00 a.m., February 26, 2011 through 6:00 a.m. March 5, 2011 within that portion of Plaquemines Parish, as described below:

Beginning at a point on the western shoreline of the Mississippi River at 29 degrees 28 minutes 30 seconds north latitude and 89 degrees 41 minutes 15 seconds west longitude; thence southeasterly to a point on the southern shoreline of the Freeport Sulphur Company Canal at 29 degrees 27 minutes 50 seconds north latitude and 89 degrees 42 minutes 10 seconds west longitude; thence southwesterly along the southern shoreline of the Freeport Sulphur Company Canal to a point at 29 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and 89 degrees 46 minutes 20 seconds west longitude; thence west along 29 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds north latitude to 89 degrees 50 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; thence north along 89 degrees 50 minutes 00 seconds west longitude to 29 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds north latitude; thence west along 29 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds north latitude to 89 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; thence north along 89 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds west longitude to 29 degrees 40 minutes 00 seconds north latitude; thence east along 29 degrees 40 minutes 00 seconds north latitude to the western shoreline of the Mississippi River; thence southeasterly along the western shoreline of the Mississippi River to the point of beginning.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission further declares as follows: all crab traps remaining in the closed area during the specified period shall be considered abandoned; these trap removal regulations do not provide authorization for access to

private property; authorization to access private property can only be provided by individual landowners; crab traps may be removed only between one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset; anyone is authorized to remove these abandoned crab traps within the closed area; no person removing crab traps from the designated closed areas shall possess these traps outside of the closed area; and abandoned traps must be brought to sites designated by the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission further authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to designate disposal sites, and to delay, suspend or extend the crab trap closure as he deems necessary for human safety or resource considerations.

Derelict crab traps are any old or new crab trap that is not being actively fished and tended and may originate from: accidental loss of actively fished traps due to tides, currents or storm surges; weathering of buoys or lines; clipping of buoy lines by vessel propellers; displacement of traps caught in shrimp gear; intentional cutting of buoy lines by vandals; abandonment of fishable traps by fishermen who leave the fishery; and improper disposal of old, unfishable traps. Since 2004, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries together with individual volunteers and volunteer organizations have successfully removed and disposed of 18,449 abandoned and derelict crabs. Plaquemines Parish has formally requested the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close this area to the use of crab traps so that derelict traps may be removed. Portions of this closure area are currently heavily used by crews conducting oil spill cleanup activities and in consideration of the presence of numerous derelict crab traps and low winter tides within the area, the safety of cleanup crews and other boaters is being compromised. It is essential that this closure be done as an emergency so that this cleanup may proceed immediately without hazard to human life or health. This area is being temporarily closed to the use of crab traps to allow for the removal of derelict crab traps as their removal benefits the crab fishery, reduces potential navigational hazards to recreational and commercial fishermen and boaters and reduces "Ghost Fishing", a term referencing an unseen cycle of mortality of blue crabs and other organisms that enter and perish within abandoned traps.

Stephen W. Sagrera
Chairman

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **June 2011 Meeting** on

Thursday, June 2, 2011, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

There were no **Public Comments** for this meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Sagrera **Adjourned** the meeting.

Stephen W. Sagrera
Chairman

scf

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate hunting seasons for resident game birds and game quadrupeds.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART XIX. HUNTING AND WMA REGULATIONS

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§101. General

The Resident Game Hunting Season regulations are hereby adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. A complete copy of the Regulation Pamphlet may be obtained from the Department.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:707 (July 1995), amended LR 22:585 (July 1996), LR 23:871 (July 1997), LR 24:1324 (July 1998), LR 25:1290 (July 1999), LR 26:1506 (July 2000), LR 27:1061 (July 2001), LR 28:1615 (July 2002), LR 29:1122 (July 2003), LR 30:1493 (July 2004), LR 31:1627 (July 2005), LR 32:1253 (July 2006), LR 33:1399 (July 2007), LR 34:1447 (July 2008), LR 35:1278 (July 2009), LR 36:1580 (July 2010), LR 37: .

§103. Resident Game Birds and Animals

A. Shooting hours. One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

B. Consult Regulation Pamphlet for seasons or specific regulations on Wildlife Management Areas or specific localities.

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Quail	<u>OPENS:</u> 3 rd Saturday of November	10	20

	<u>CLOSES:</u> Last Day of February		
Rabbit and Squirrel	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st Saturday of October <u>CLOSES:</u> Last Day of February	8	16
Squirrel*	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st Saturday of May for 23 days	3	6
Deer	See Schedule	1 antlered and 1 antlerless (when legal)	6/season (3 antlered deer & 3 antlerless deer)

*NOTE: Spring squirrel season is closed on the Kisatchie National Forest, National Wildlife Refuges, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property. Some State Wildlife Management Areas will be open, check WMA season schedule.

C. Deer Hunting Schedule, 2011-2012

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
1	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st day of Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Last day of Jan.	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. after 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan. <u>CLOSES:</u> Last Sun. of Jan.	<u>OPENS:</u> Sat. before Thanksgiving Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3 rd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 2 nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1 st Sat. of Dec.	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1 st Sat. of Dec. <u>CLOSES:</u> Sun. after 1 st Sat. of Jan.

			<p><u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after 1st Sat. of Jan.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> next to last Sun. of Jan.</p>	
2	<p><u>OPENS:</u> 1st day of Oct.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Last day of Jan.</p>	<p><u>OPENS:</u> Next to last Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before last Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after the last day of Modern Firearm Season in Jan.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> After 7 days.</p>	<p><u>OPENS:</u> Last Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Tues. before 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on Wed. during even numbered years EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Tues. in odd numbered years or Wed. during even numbered years before the 1st Sat. of Dec.</p>	<p><u>OPENS:</u> Wed. before the 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on Thurs. during even numbered years EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the Wed. before the 1st Sat. of Dec. on odd years and Thurs. during even numbered years</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> 40 days after opening in odd numbered years or 39 days after opening in even numbered years</p>
3	<p><u>OPENS:</u> 3rd Sat. of Sept.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Jan. 15</p>	<p><u>OPENS:</u> 2nd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Fri.</p>	<p><u>OPENS:</u> 3rd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><u>CLOSES:</u> Sun. after Thanksgiving Day</p> <p><u>OPENS:</u> 1st Sat. of Dec.</p>	

		before 1 st Sat. of Dec.	<u>CLOSES:</u> After 37 days	
4	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st day of Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Last day of Jan.	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 3 rd Sat. of Nov. <u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after 2 nd Sat. of Jan. <u>CLOSES:</u> Mon. after 3 rd Sat. of Jan.	<u>OPENS:</u> 3 rd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Sun. after 2 nd Sat. of Jan.	
5	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st day of Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Last day of Jan.	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 3 rd Sat. of Nov. (BUCKS ONLY) <u>OPENS:</u> Day after Christmas Day <u>CLOSES:</u> Jan. 1 st (BUCKS ONLY)	<u>OPENS:</u> Day after Thanksgiving Day <u>CLOSES:</u> Sun. after 2 nd Sat. of Dec.	
6	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st day of Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Feb. 15 (1 st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 3 rd Sat. of Nov. <u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan. <u>CLOSES:</u> Last Sun. of Jan.	<u>OPENS:</u> Sat. before Thanksgiving Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3 rd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 2 nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1 st Sat. of Dec.	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1 st Sat. of Dec. <u>CLOSES:</u> Next to last Sun. of Jan.
7	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st day of	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Oct.	<u>OPENS:</u> 3 rd Sat. of Oct.	<u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after

	Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Last day of Jan.	<u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 3 rd Sat. of Oct. <u>OPENS:</u> 1 st Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 2 nd Sat. of Nov.	<u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 1 st Sat. of Nov. <u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Sun. after Thanksgiving Day	Thanksgiving Day <u>CLOSES:</u> After 35 days
8	<u>OPENS:</u> 3 rd Sat. of Sept. <u>CLOSES:</u> Jan. 15	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 3 rd Sat. of Oct. <u>OPENS:</u> Mon. after Thanksgiving Day <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri. before 1 st Sat. of Dec.	<u>OPENS:</u> 3 rd Sat. of Oct. <u>CLOSES:</u> Sun. after Thanksgiving Day	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st Sat. of Dec. <u>CLOSES:</u> After 37 days.

D. Modern Firearm Schedule (Either Sex Seasons)

Parish	Area	Modern Firearm Either-sex Days
East Carroll	Area 4 portion	Opens 3 rd Saturday of November for 2 days and opens Friday after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, west of mainline Mississippi River Levee and north and west of La. 877 from West Carroll Parish line to La. 580, north of La. 580 to U.S. 65, east of U.S. 65 to Madison Parish line.
West Carroll	Area 5	Opens Friday after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days.

E. Deer Hunting Schedule, 2012-2013

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
<u>1</u>	<u>OPENS:</u> 1 st - day of Oct.	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd Sat. of Nov. <u>CLOSES:</u> Fri.	<u>OPENS:</u> Sat. before Thanksgiving	<u>OPENS:</u> 2 nd - Sat. of Dec. <u>EXCEPT</u> when

	<p><u>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</u></p>	<p><u>after 2nd Sat. of Nov.</u></p> <p><u>OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</u></p>	<p><u>Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st-Sat. of Dec.</u></p> <p><u>OPENS: Mon. after 1st Sat. of Jan.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: next to last Sun. of Jan.</u></p>	<p><u>there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: Sun. after 1st Sat. of Jan.</u></p>
<p><u>2</u></p>	<p><u>OPENS: 1st-day of Oct.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</u></p>	<p><u>OPENS: Next to last Sat. of Oct.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: Fri. before last Sat. of Oct.</u></p> <p><u>OPENS: Mon. after the last day of Modern Firearm Season in Jan.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: After 7 days.</u></p>	<p><u>OPENS: Last Sat. of Oct.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: Tues. before 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on Wed. during even numbered years EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Tues. in odd numbered years or Wed. during even numbered years before the 1st-Sat. of Dec.</u></p>	<p><u>OPENS: Wed. before the 2nd-Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on Thurs. during even numbered years EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the Wed. before the 1st-Sat. of Dec. on odd years and Thurs. during even numbered years</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: 40</u></p>

				<u>days after opening in odd numbered years or 39 days after opening in even numbered years</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.</u> <u>CLOSES: Jan. 15</u>	<u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</u>	<u>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day</u> <u>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</u> <u>CLOSES: After 37 days</u>	
<u>4</u>	<u>See Area 1.</u>			
<u>5</u>	<u>OPENS: 1st day of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</u>	<u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Nov. (BUCKS ONLY)</u> <u>OPENS: Day after Christmas Day</u> <u>CLOSES: Jan. 1st (BUCKS ONLY)</u>	<u>OPENS: Day after Thanksgiving Day</u> <u>CLOSES: Sun. after 2nd Sat. of Dec.</u>	
<u>6</u>	<u>OPENS: 1st day of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Feb. 15 (1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)</u>	<u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.</u> <u>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</u>	<u>OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are</u>	<u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.</u> <u>CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan.</u>

			5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1 st -Sat. of Dec.	
7	<u>OPENS: 1st-day of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</u>	<u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Nov.</u>	<u>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.</u> <u>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day</u>	<u>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</u> <u>CLOSES: After 35 days</u>
8	<u>OPENS: 3rd-Sat. of Sept.</u> <u>CLOSES: Jan. 15</u>	<u>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</u> <u>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</u>	<u>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.</u> <u>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day</u>	<u>OPENS: 1st-Sat. of Dec.</u> <u>CLOSES: After 37 days.</u>

F D. Modern Firearm Schedule (Either Sex Seasons)

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Modern Firearm Either-sex Days</u>
<u>West Carroll</u>	<u>Area 5</u>	<u>Opens Friday after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days.</u>

G E. Farm Raised White-tailed Deer on Supplemented Shooting Preserves: Archery, Firearm, Primitive Firearms: October 1 - January 31 (Either-Sex).

H F. Exotics on Supplemented Shooting Preserves: Either Sex, no closed season.

I G. Spring Squirrel Hunting

1. Season Dates: Opens 1st Saturday of May for 23 days.

2. Closed Areas: Kisatchie National Forest, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property and all WMAs except as provided in Paragraph 3 below.

3. Wildlife Management Area Schedule: Opens 1st Saturday of May for 9 days on all WMAs except Fort Polk, Peason Ridge, Camp Beauregard, Pass-a-Loutre and Salvador. Dogs are allowed during this season for squirrel hunting. Feral hogs may not be taken on Wildlife Management Areas during this season.

4. Limits: Daily bag limit is 3 and possession limit is 6.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:109(B) and R.S. 56:141(C).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:707 (July 1995), amended LR 22:585 (July 1996), LR 23:871 (July 1997), LR 24:1324 (July 1998), LR 25:1290 (July 1999), repromulgated LR 25:1526 (August 1999), LR 26:1506 (July 2000), LR 27:1061 (July 2001), LR 28:1615 (July 2002), LR 29:1122 (July 2003), repromulgated LR 29:1521 (August 2003), LR 30:1494 (July 2004), LR 31:1627 (July 2005), LR 32:1254 (July 2006), LR 33:115 (January 2007), LR 33:1399 (July 2007), LR 34:1447 (July 2008), LR 35:1280 (July 2009), LR 35:2856 (December 2009), LR 36:1580 (July 2010), LR 37: .

Public hearings will be held at the following locations: March 9 beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Alexandria Convention Hall, 915 Third Street, Alexandria; March 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the LDWF Office, 9961 Highway 80, Minden; March 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m., Yambilee Festival Building, 1939 W. Landry, Opelousas; March 16 beginning at 6:00 p.m., Ponchatoula High School Cafeteria, 19452 Highway 22, Ponchatoula; March 17 beginning at 6:00 p.m., Bastrop Visitor Center, 124 North Washington Street, Bastrop; and March 22 beginning at 6:30 p.m., LSU Ag Center (next to Burton Coliseum), 7101 Gulf Highway, Lake Charles. Also comments will be accepted at regularly scheduled Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Meetings from March through May. Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m., Thursday, May 5, 2011 to Mr. Randy Myers, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA, 70898-9000.

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.

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).

Stephen W. Sagrera
Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules and regulations governing the hunting of resident game birds and game quadrupeds.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§111. General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and Regulations

A. Hunting Seasons and Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Regulations

1. The rules and regulations contained within this digest have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission under authority vested by Sections 115 and 116 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 and are in full force and effect in conjunction with all applicable statutory laws. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) has the authority to close or alter seasons in emergency situations in order to protect fish and wildlife resources.

2. Pursuant to Section 40.1 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has adopted monetary values which are assigned to all illegally taken, possessed, injured or destroyed fish, wild birds, wild quadrupeds and other wildlife and aquatic life. Anyone taking, possessing, injuring or destroying fish, wild birds, wild quadrupeds and other wildlife and aquatic life shall be required to reimburse the LDWF a sum of money equal to the value of the wildlife illegally taken, possessed, injured or destroyed. This monetary reimbursement shall be in addition to any and all criminal penalties imposed for the illegal act.

B. Resident Game Birds and Animals

1. Shooting hours: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

C. Other Season Dates

1. Turkey. Please refer to separate pamphlet.

2. Raccoon and Opossum. No closed season. Raccoon and opossum can be taken at night by one or more licensed hunters with one or more dogs and one .22 rimfire firearm. A licensed hunter may take raccoon or opossum with .22 rimfire rifle, .36 caliber or smaller muzzleloader rifle or shotgun during daylight hours. Hunting from boats or motor vehicles is prohibited. No bag limit for nighttime or daytime raccoon or opossum hunting during the open trapping season except on certain WMAs as listed. The remainder of the year, the raccoon and opossum bag limit for daytime or nighttime is two per person per day or night. No one who hunts raccoons or opossums as prescribed above shall pelt during the closed trapping season nor sell skins or carcasses of raccoons and opossums taken during the open trapping season unless he is the holder of a valid trapping license which shall be required in addition to his basic hunting license. Pelting or selling carcasses is illegal during closed trapping season.

3. Nutria. On WMAs and private property nutria may be taken recreationally by licensed hunters from September 1 through the last day of February, during legal shooting hours by any legal hunting method with a daily limit of five. When taken with a shotgun, steel shot must be used. On WMAs during waterfowl seasons, nutria may be taken only with the use of shotguns with shot no larger than F steel, and during gun deer seasons, anyone taking nutria must display 400 square inches of "Hunter Orange" and wear a "Hunter Orange" cap or hat. Recreational nutria hunters must remove each nutria carcass in whole condition from the hunting area, except that nutria may be gutted. Possession of detached nutria parts, including nutria tails, by recreational hunters is illegal. Nutria harvested recreationally may not be pelted nor may such nutria or any nutria parts from recreationally taken nutria be sold, including the tail. Trespassing upon private property for the purpose of taking nutria or other furbearing animals is punishable by fines and possible jail time (R.S. 56:265). The Coastwide Nutria Control Program is a separate program and is in no way related to the nutria recreational season. For questions on the Coastwide Nutria Control Program, call the New Iberia office

(337) 373-0032.

4. Blackbirds and crows. The season for crows shall be September 1 through January 1 with no limit; however crows, blackbirds, cowbirds and grackles may be taken year round during legal shooting hours if they are depredating or about to depredate upon ornamentals or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock, wildlife, or when concentrated in such numbers as to cause a health hazard. Louisiana has determined that the birds listed above are crop depredators and that crows have been implicated in the spread of the West Nile virus in humans. As described in 50 CFR Part 21, non-toxic shot must be used for the take of crows, blackbirds, cowbirds and grackles under the special depredation order. In addition an annual report has to be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for those that participate in the take of these species.

5. Pheasant. Open concurrently with the quail season; no limit.

6. Falconry. Special permit required. Resident and migratory game species may be taken except turkeys. Seasons and bag limits are the same as for statewide and WMA regulations. Refer to LAC 76:V.301 for specific Falconry Rules.

7. Licensed Hunting Preserve. October 1 - April 30. Pen-raised birds only. No limit entire season. Refer to LAC 76:V.305 for specific Hunting Preserve Rules.

8. Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP). Refer to LAC 76:V.111 for specific DMAP Rules. ~~Land enrolled in the voluntary program will be assessed a \$25 registration fee and 5¢/acre fee.~~ Deer management assistance tags must be in the possession of the hunter in order to harvest an antlerless deer. The tag shall be attached through the hock in such a manner that it cannot be removed before the deer is transported (including those taken on either-sex days and those taken with approved archery equipment or primitive firearms). Antlerless deer harvested on property enrolled in DMAP does not count in the season or daily bag limit for hunters. Failure to do so is a violation of R.S. 56:115. Failing to follow DMAP rules and regulations may result in suspension and cancellation of the program on those lands involved. DMAP participants must follow the deer season schedule established for their respective areas.

~~9. Landowner Assistance Deer Tag (LADT)~~

~~a. Eligibility for LADT is limited to the following landowners or lessees:~~

~~i. License Deer Farmers;~~

~~ii. Landowners or lessees with less than 500 acres who have verified deer depredation problems;~~

~~iii. Landowners with 40 acres or more enrolled in the Louisiana Forest Stewardship Program; and~~

~~iv. Landowners or lessees with 40 or more contiguous acres of forested or marsh land.~~

~~b. Each applicant will be assessed a \$25 administrative processing fee. Each hunter must have the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag in his possession while hunting on the property for which the tag was issued and immediately upon kill of an antlerless deer, the hunter must tag the animal through the hock. The deer must be tagged before it is transported from the site of kill and the tag will remain with the deer while the hunter is in route to his domicile. Antlerless deer harvested on property enrolled in LADT does not count in the season or daily bag limit for hunters. LADT participants must follow the deer season schedule established for their respective areas. For more information, contact any Wildlife Division Region Office.~~

10 9. Farm Raised White-tailed Deer and Exotics on Licensed Supplemented Shooting Preserves

a. Definitions

Exotics: For purposes of this rule means any animal of the family Bovidae (except the Tribe Bovini [cattle]) or Cervidae which is not indigenous to Louisiana and which is confined on a Supplemented Hunting Preserve. Exotics shall include, but are not limited to, fallow deer, red deer, elk, sika deer, axis deer, and black buck antelope.

Hunting: In its different tenses and for purposes of this rule means to take or attempt to take, in accordance with R.S. 56:8.

Same as Outside: For purposes of this rule means hunting on a Supplemented Hunting Preserve must conform to applicable statutes and rules governing hunting and deer

hunting, as provided for in Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes and as established annually by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Supplemented Hunting Preserve: For purposes of this rule means any enclosure for which a current Farm-Raising License has been issued by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) with concurrence of the LDWF and is authorized in writing by the LDAF and LDWF to permit hunting.

White-tailed Deer: For purposes of this rule means any animal of the species Odocoileus virginianus which is confined on a Supplemented Hunting Preserve.

b. Seasons

i. Farm-Raised White-tailed Deer: consult the regulations pamphlet.

ii. Exotics: year round.

c. Methods of Take

i. White-tailed Deer: same as outside.

ii. Exotics: Exotics may be taken with longbow (including compound bow and crossbow) and arrow; shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, loaded with buckshot or rifled slug; handguns and rifles no smaller than .22 caliber centerfire; or muzzleloading rifles or pistols, .44 caliber minimum, or shotguns 10 gauge or smaller, all of which must load exclusively from the muzzle or cap and ball cylinder, using black powder or an approved substitute only, and using ball or bullet projectile, including sabot bullets only and other approved primitive firearms.

d. Shooting Hours

i. White-tailed Deer: same as outside.

ii. Exotics: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

e. Bag Limit

i. Farm-Raised White-tailed Deer: same as outside.

ii. Exotics: No limit.

f. Hunting Licenses

i. White-tailed Deer: same as outside.

ii. Exotics: No person shall hunt any exotic without possessing a valid basic and big game hunting license.

g. Tagging. White-tailed Deer and Exotics: Each animal shall be tagged in the left ear or left antler immediately upon being killed and before being moved from the site of the kill with a tag provided by the LDAF. The tag shall remain with the carcass at all times.

~~11~~ 10. Bobcat. No person other than the holder of a valid big game license may take or possess bobcat, except licensed trappers who may take or possess bobcat during the open trapping season. A big game licensee shall only take bobcat during the time period from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset with approved archery equipment, shotgun, muzzleloader or centerfire firearm. A big game licensee shall not take more than one bobcat per calendar year. This regulation applies only to property that is privately owned, state WMAs, and the Bayou des Ourses, Bodcau, Bonnet Carre, Indian Bayou, Loggy Bayou and Soda Lake tracts owned by the Corps of Engineers but does not apply to state wildlife refuges, the Kisatchie National Forest, or other federally owned refuges and lands. On state WMAs, the take of bobcat is restricted to those open seasons on the WMAs which require the respective legal weapons noted above.

D. Hunting-General Provisions

1. A basic resident or non-resident hunting license is required of all persons to hunt, take, possess or cause to be transported by any other person any wild bird or quadruped. See information below for exceptions.

2. All persons born on or after September 1, 1969 must show proof of satisfactorily completing a Hunter Safety course approved by LDWF to purchase a Basic Hunting License, EXCEPT any active or veteran member of the United States armed services or any POST-certified law enforcement officer. Application for the exemption shall be filed in person at the

LDWF main office building in the city of Baton Rouge. A person younger than 16 years of age may hunt without such certificate if he is accompanied by, and is under the direct supervision of a person 18 years of age or older.

3. A big game license is required in addition to the basic hunting license to hunt, take, possess or cause to be transported any deer. A separate wild turkey license is required in addition to the basic hunting license and the big game license to hunt, take, possess or cause to be transported any turkey.

4. Taking game quadrupeds or birds from aircraft or participating in the taking of deer with the aid of aircraft or from automobiles or other moving land vehicles is prohibited.

5. Methods of Taking Resident Game Birds and Quadrupeds

a. It is illegal to intentionally feed, deposit, place, distribute, expose, scatter, or cause to be fed, deposited, placed, distributed, exposed, or scattered raw sweet potatoes to wild game quadrupeds.

b. Use of a longbow (including compound bow and crossbow) and arrow or a shotgun not larger than a 10 gauge fired from the shoulder without a rest shall be legal for taking all resident game birds and quadrupeds. Also, the use of a handgun, rifle and falconry (special permit required) shall be legal for taking all game species except turkey. It shall be illegal to hunt or take squirrels or rabbits at any time with a breech-loaded rifle or handgun larger than a .22 caliber rimfire or a primitive firearm larger than .36 caliber. During closed deer gun season, it shall be illegal to possess shotgun shells loaded with slugs or shot larger than BB lead or F steel shot while small game hunting.

c. Still hunting is defined as stalking or stationary stand hunting without the use of dog(s). Pursuing, driving or hunting deer with dogs is prohibited when or where a still hunting season or area is designated, and will be strictly enforced. Shotguns larger than 10 gauge or capable of holding more than three shells shall be prohibited. Plugs used in shotguns must be incapable of being removed without disassembly. Refer to game schedules contained within these regulations for specific restrictions on the use of firearms and other devices.

d. No person shall take or kill any game bird or wild quadruped with a firearm fitted with any device to deaden or silence the sound of the discharge thereof; or fitted with an infrared sight, laser sight, or except as provided in R.S. 56:116(A)(8) any sighting device which projects a beam of light to the target or otherwise electronically illuminates the target, or device specifically designed to enhance vision at night [R.S. 56:116.1.B(3)].

6. Nuisance Animals. Landowners or their designees may remove beaver and nutria causing damage to their property without a special permit. Water set traps and firearms may be used to remove beaver; nutria may be removed by any means EXCEPT that nutria cannot be taken by the use of headlight and gun between the hours of sunset and sunrise. With a special permit issued by the LDWF, beavers may be taken between one-half hour after official sunset to one-half hour before official sunrise for a period of three consecutive calendar evenings from the effective date of the permit. For specific details contact a region office near you. Any nuisance beaver or nutria trapped or shot outside open trapping season cannot be pelted or sold. A trapping license is required to sell or pelt nuisance beavers or nutria taken during open trapping season. Squirrels found destroying commercial crops of pecans may be taken year-round by permit issued by the LDWF. This permit shall be valid for 30 days from the date of issuance. Contact the local region office for details.

7. Threatened and Endangered Species - Louisiana black bear, Louisiana pearl shell (mussel), sea turtles, gopher tortoise, ringed sawback turtle, brown pelican, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, whooping crane, Eskimo curlew, piping plover, interior least tern, ivory-billed woodpecker, red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's warbler, West Indian manatee, Florida panther, pallid sturgeon, Gulf sturgeon, Attwater's greater prairie chicken, whales and red wolf. Taking or harassment of any of these species is a violation of state and federal laws.

8. Outlaw Quadrupeds. Holders of a legal hunting license may take coyotes, feral hogs where legal, and armadillos year round during legal daylight shooting hours. The running of coyotes with dogs is prohibited in all turkey hunting areas during the open turkey season. Coyote hunting is restricted to chase only when using dogs during still hunting segments of the firearm and archery only season for deer. Foxes are protected quadrupeds and may be taken only with traps by licensed trappers

during the trapping season. Remainder of the year "chase only" allowed by licensed hunters.

9. Nighttime take of nuisance animals & outlaw quadrupeds. On private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission and the landowner's contact information in his possession, may take outlaw quadrupeds (coyotes, armadillos and feral hogs), nutria or beaver during the nighttime hours from one-half hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one-half hour after official sunset the last day of August of that same year. The method of such taking shall be limited to a shotgun no larger than a No. 10 gauge fired with buckshot or smaller or a standard .22 caliber rimfire firearm, and may be with or without the aid of artificial light, infrared or laser sighting devices, or night vision devices.

~~9~~ 10. Hunting and/or Discharging Firearms on Public Roads. Hunting, standing, loitering or shooting game quadrupeds or game birds with a gun during open season while on a public highway or public road right-of-way is prohibited. Hunting or the discharge of firearms on roads or highways located on public levees or within 100 feet from the centerline of such levee roads or highways is prohibited. Spot lighting or shining from public roads is prohibited by state law. Hunting from all public roads and rights-of-way is prohibited and these provisions will be strictly enforced.

~~10~~ 11. Tags. Any part of the deer or wild turkey divided shall have affixed thereto the name, date, address and big game license number of the person killing the deer or wild turkey and the sex of that animal. This information shall be legibly written in pen or pencil, on any piece of paper or cardboard or any material, which is attached or secured to or enclosing the part or parts. On lands enrolled in DMAP, deer management assistance tags must be attached and locked through the hock of antlerless deer, (including those taken with approved archery and primitive firearms, and those antlerless deer taken on either-sex days) in a manner that it cannot be removed, before the deer is moved from the site of the kill.

~~11~~ 12. Sex Identification. Positive evidence of sex identification, including the head, shall remain on any deer taken or killed within the State of Louisiana, or on all turkeys taken or killed during any special gobbler season when killing of turkey hens is prohibited, so long as such deer or turkey is kept in camp or field, or is in route to the domicile of its

possessor, or until such deer or turkey has been stored at the domicile of its possessor or divided at a cold storage facility and has become identifiable as food rather than as wild game.

E. General Deer Hunting Regulations

1. Prior to hunting deer, all deer hunters, regardless of age or license status, must obtain deer tags and have in possession when hunting deer. Immediately upon harvesting a deer, the hunter must tag the deer with the appropriate carcass tag and document the kill on the deer tag license. Within ~~72 hours~~ 7 days the hunter must validate the kill ~~and record the validation number on the license~~. Hunters harvesting deer on DMAP ~~and LADT~~ lands can validate deer per instructions by LDWF using the DMAP ~~and LADT~~ harvest data sheets. Hunters on WMAS can validate deer during mandatory deer check hunts, when deer check stations are in operation. Hunters may validate deer by calling the validation toll free number or using the validation web site.

2. One antlered and one antlerless deer per day (when legal) except on National Forest Lands and some Federal Refuges (check refuge regulations) where the daily limit shall be one deer per day. Season limit is six, three antlered bucks and three antlerless deer (all segments included) by all methods of take, except antlerless harvest on property enrolled in DMAP ~~and LADT~~ does not count in the season or daily bag limit for hunters. Antlerless deer may be harvested during entire deer season on private lands (all segments included) except in the following parishes: West Carroll and portions of East Carroll. Consult regulations pamphlet, modern firearms table for either-sex days for these parishes. This does not apply to public lands (WMAs, National Forest Lands, and Federal Refuges) which will have specified either-sex days.

3. A legal ~~buck~~ antlered deer is a deer with at least one visible antler of hardened bony material, broken naturally through the skin, EXCEPT in Thistlethwaite WMA, see specific Thistlethwaite WMA regulations for more information. ~~Killing bucks without at least one visible antler as described above and killing antlerless deer is prohibited except where specifically allowed. and EXCEPT in Thistlethwaite WMA where legal buck shall be defined as deer with at least 4 points on one side or a deer with unbranched antlers commonly referred to as spikes (no minimum length). To be counted as a point, a projection must be at least one inch long and its length must exceed the length of its base. The beam tip is counted as a~~

~~point but not measured as a point.~~

4. Either-sex deer is defined as male or female deer. Taking or possessing spotted fawns is prohibited.

5. It is illegal to hunt or shoot deer with firearms smaller than .22 caliber centerfire or a shotgun loaded with anything other than buckshot or rifled slug. Handguns may be used for hunting.

6. Taking game quadrupeds or birds from aircraft, participating in the taking of deer with the aid of aircraft or from automobiles or other moving land vehicles is prohibited.

7. Still hunting is defined as stalking or stationary stand hunting without the use of dog(s). Pursuing, driving or hunting deer with dogs or moving vehicles, including ATVs, when or where a still hunting season or area is designated, is prohibited and will be strictly enforced. The training of deer dogs is prohibited in all still hunting areas during the gun still hunting and archery only season. Deer hunting with dogs is allowed in all other areas having open deer seasons that are not specifically designated as still hunting only. A leashed dog may be used to trail and retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer during legal hunting hours. Any dog used to trail or retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer shall have on a collar with owner's name, address, and phone number. In addition, a dog may be used to trail and retrieve unrecovered deer after legal hunting hours; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort.

8. It is illegal to take deer while deer are swimming or while the hunter is in a boat with motor attached in operating position; however the restriction in this paragraph shall not apply to any person who has lost one or more limbs.

9. Areas not specifically designated as open are closed.

10. Primitive Firearms Segment: (Special license and primitive firearms specifications apply only to the special state, WMA, National Forest and Preserves, and Federal Refuge seasons.) Still hunt only. Specific WMAs will also be open, check WMA schedule for specific details. Primitive firearms license required for resident hunters between the ages of 16 and 59 inclusive and non-residents 16 years of age and older. Either-sex deer may be taken in all deer hunting areas EXCEPT

Area 5 and as specified on Public Areas. It is unlawful to carry a gun, other than a primitive firearm, including those powered by air or other means, while hunting during the special primitive firearms segment. Except, it is lawful to carry a .22 caliber rimfire pistol loaded with #12 shot (ratshot only).

a. Legal Primitive Firearms For Special Season: Rifles or pistols, .44 caliber minimum, or shotguns 10 gauge or smaller, all of which must load exclusively from the muzzle or cap and ball cylinder, use black powder or approved substitute only, take ball or bullet projectile only, including sabot bullets and may be fitted with magnified scopes. This includes muzzleloaders known as "inline" muzzleloaders.

b. Single shot, breech loading rifles, .38 caliber or larger, of a kind or type manufactured prior to 1900 and replicas, reproductions or reintroductions of that type rifle having an exposed hammer that use metallic cartridges loaded either with black powder or modern smokeless powder and may be fitted with magnified scopes.

c. Special Youth Deer Shotgun Season on Private Land (either-sex): Youths 17 or younger may hunt deer with shotguns using slugs only during the Primitive Firearms Season in each deer hunting area.

11. Archery Segment: Consult regulations pamphlet. WMA seasons are the same as outside except as noted below. Archery license required for resident bow hunters between the ages of 16 and 59 inclusive and non-residents 16 years of age and older. Either-sex deer may be taken in all areas open for deer hunting EXCEPT when a bucks only season is in progress for gun hunting, and EXCEPT in Area 6 from October 1-15. Archer's must conform to the bucks only regulations. Either-sex deer may be taken on WMAs at anytime during archery season EXCEPT when bucks only seasons are in progress on the respective WMA. Also, archery season restricted on Atchafalaya Delta, Salvador, Lake Boeuf, and Pointe-aux-Chenes WMAs (SEE SCHEDULE).

a. Bow and arrow regulations: Longbow, compound bow and crossbow or any bow drawn, held or released by mechanical means will be a legal means of take for all properly licensed hunters. Hunting arrows for deer must have well-sharpened broadhead points. Bow and arrow fishermen must have a sport fishing license and not carry any arrows with broadhead points unless a big game season is in progress.

i. It is unlawful:

(a). to carry a gun, including those powered by air or other means, while hunting with bow and arrow during the special bow and arrow deer season EXCEPT it is lawful to carry a .22 caliber rimfire pistol loaded with #12 shot (ratshot) only.

(b). to have in possession or use any poisoned or drugged arrow or arrows with explosive tips.

(c). to hunt deer with a bow having a pull less than 30 pounds.

(d). to hunt with a bow or crossbow fitted with an infrared, laser sight, electrically-operated sight or device specifically designed to enhance vision at night (does not include non-projecting red dot sights) [R.S. 56:116.1.B.(4)].

12. Hunter Orange. Any person hunting any wildlife during the open gun deer hunting season and possessing buckshot, slugs, a primitive firearm, or a centerfire rifle shall display on his head, chest and/or back a total of not less than 400 square inches of "HUNTER ORANGE". Persons hunting on privately owned, legally posted land may wear a hunter orange cap or hat in lieu of the 400 square inches. These provisions shall not apply to persons hunting deer from elevated stands on property that is privately owned and legally posted or to archery deer hunters hunting on legally posted lands where firearm hunting is not allowed by agreement of the landowner or lessee. However, anyone hunting deer on such lands where hunting with firearms is allowed shall be required to display the 400 square inches or a hunter orange cap or hat while walking to and from elevated stands. While a person is hunting from an elevated stand, the 400 square inches or cap or hat may be concealed. WARNING: DEER HUNTERS ARE CAUTIONED TO WATCH FOR PERSONS HUNTING OTHER GAME OR ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES NOT REQUIRING "HUNTER ORANGE".

13. Special Physically Challenged either-sex deer season on private land: 1st Saturday of October for 2 days. Restricted to individuals with Physically Challenged Hunter Permit.

14. Special Youth Deer Hunt on Private Lands (Either-Sex). Areas 1, 4, 5 and 6 - last Saturday of October for 2 days; Area 2 - 2nd Saturday of October for 2 days; and Areas 3, 7

and 8 - 4th Saturday of September for 2 days. Youths 17 or younger only. Youths must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older. Youths must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm. Youths may possess only one firearm while hunting. Legal firearms are the same as described for deer hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. EXCEPT properly licensed youths 16-17 years old and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult.

F. Description of Areas, 2011-2012

1. Area 1

a. All of the following parishes are open: Concordia, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Franklin, Madison, St. Helena, Tensas, Washington.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Catahoula - East of Boeuf River to Ouachita River, east of Ouachita River from its confluence with Boeuf River to LA 8, south and east of LA 8 southwesterly to Parish line.

ii. East Carroll - East of mainline Mississippi River Levee and south and east of LA 877 from West Carroll Parish line to LA 580, south of LA 580 to US 65, west of US 65 to Madison Parish line.

iii. Grant - East of US 165 and south of LA 8.

iv. LaSalle - South of a line beginning where Little River enters Catahoula Lake following the center of the lake eastward to Old River then to US 84, east of US 84 northward to LA 8, south of LA 8 eastward to Parish line.

v. Livingston - North of I-12.

vi. Rapides - East of US 165 and north of Red River.

vii. St. Tammany - All EXCEPT that portion south of I-12, west of LA 1077 to LA 22, south of LA 22 to Tchefuncte River, west of Tchefuncte River southward to Lake Pontchartrain.

viii. Tangipahoa - North of I-12.

ix. West Feliciana - All EXCEPT that portion known as Raccourci and Turnbull Island.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Catahoula - South of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west of LA 8 to LA 913, west of LA 913 and LA 15 to Deer Creek.

ii. East Carroll - East of mainline Mississippi River Levee and south and east of LA 877 from West Carroll Parish line to LA 580, south of LA 580 to US 65, west of US 65 to Madison Parish line.

iii. East Feliciana and East Baton Rouge - East of Thompson Creek from the Mississippi state line to LA 10, north of LA 10 from Thompson Creek to LA 67 at Clinton, west of LA 67 from Clinton to Mississippi state line, south of Mississippi state line from LA 67 to Thompson Creek. Also that portion of East Baton Rouge Parish east of LA 67 from LA 64 north to Parish Line, south of Parish Line from LA 64 eastward to Amite River, west of Amite River southward to LA 64, north of LA 64 to LA 37 at Magnolia, east of LA 37 northward to LA 64 at Indian Mound, north of LA 64 from Indian Mound to LA 67. Also, that portion of East Feliciana Parish east of LA 67 from parish line north to LA 959, south of LA 959 east to LA 63, west of LA 63 to Amite River, west of Amite River southward to parish line, north of parish line westward to LA 67.

iv. Franklin - All.

v. St. Helena - North of LA 16 from Tickfaw River at Montpelier westward to LA 449, east and south of LA 449 from LA 16 at Pine Grove northward to Rohner Road, south of Rohner Road to LA 1045, south of LA 1045 to the Tickfaw

River, west of the Tickfaw River from LA 1045 southward to LA 16 at Montpelier.

vi. Tangipahoa - That portion of Tangipahoa Parish north of LA 10 from the Tchefuncte River to LA 1061 at Wilmer, east of LA 1061 to LA 440 at Bolivar, south of LA 440 to the Tchefuncte River, west of the Tchefuncte River from LA 440 southward to LA 10.

vii. Washington and St. Tammany - East of LA 21 from the Mississippi state line southward to the Bogue Chitto River, north of the Bogue Chitto River from LA 21 eastward to the Pearl River Navigation Canal, east of the Pearl River Navigation Canal southward to the West Pearl River, north of the West Pearl River from the Pearl River Navigation Canal to Holmes Bayou, west of Holmes Bayou from the West Pearl River northward to the Pearl River, west of the Pearl River from Holmes Bayou northward to the Mississippi state line, south of the Mississippi state line from the Pearl River westward to LA 21. Also, that portion of Washington Parish west of LA 25 from the Mississippi state line southward to the Bogue Chitto River, then west of the Bogue Chitto River to its junction with the St. Tammany Parish line, north of the St. Tammany Parish line to the Tangipahoa Parish line, east of the Tangipahoa Parish line to the Mississippi state line, south of the Mississippi state line to its junction with LA 25.

viii. West Feliciana - West of Thompson Creek to Illinois-Central Railroad, north of Illinois-Central Railroad to Parish Road #7, east of Parish Road #7 to the junction of US 61 and LA 966, east of LA 966 from US 61 to Chaney Creek, south of Chaney Creek to Thompson Creek.

2. Area 2

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Claiborne, DeSoto, Jackson, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Union, Webster, Winn.

ii. EXCEPT: Kisatchie National Forest which has special regulations. Caney, Corney, Middlefork tracts of Kisatchie have the same regulations as Area 2, EXCEPT still hunting only for deer and EXCEPT National Forest Land within the Evangeline Unit, Calcasieu Ranger District described in Area 2 description shall be still hunting only.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen - North of US 190 from parish line westward to Kinder, east of US 165 from Kinder northward to LA 10 at Oakdale, north of LA 10 from Oakdale westward to the parish line.

ii. Avoyelles - That portion west of I-49.

iii. Catahoula - West of Boeuf River to Ouachita River, west of Ouachita River from its confluence with Boeuf River to LA 8, north and west of LA 8 southwesterly to Parish line.

iv. Evangeline - All EXCEPT the following portions: east of I-49 to junction of LA 29, east of LA 29 south of I-49 to Ville Platte, and north of US 167 east of Ville Platte.

v. Grant - All EXCEPT that portion south of LA 8 and east of US 165.

vi. Jefferson Davis - North of US 190.

vii. LaSalle - North of a line beginning where Little River enters Catahoula Lake, following the center of the lake eastward to Old River then to US 84, west of US 84 northward to LA 8, north of LA 8 eastward to Parish line.

viii. Morehouse - West of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to Bastrop, west of LA 139 to junction of LA 593, west and south of LA 593 to Collinston, west of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and north of LA 134 to Ouachita Parish line at Wham Brake.

ix. Ouachita - All EXCEPT south of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse Parish line at Wham Brake.

x. Rapides - All EXCEPT north of Red River and east of US 165, south of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill, and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line, and that portion south of

Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line.

xi. Vernon - North of LA 10 from the parish line westward to LA 113, south of LA 113 eastward to parish line. Also the portion north of LA 465 west of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville and north of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Claiborne and Webster - Caney, Corney and Middlefork tracts of Kisatchie National Forest. (See Kisatchie National Forest Regulations).

ii. Ouachita - East of Ouachita River.

iii. Rapides - West of US 167 from Alexandria southward to I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, west of I-49 southward to Parish Line, north of Parish Line westward to US 165, east of US 165 northward to US 167 at Alexandria. North of LA 465 from Vernon Parish line to LA 121, west of LA 121 to I-49, west of I-49 to LA 8, south and east of LA 8 to LA 118 (Mora Road), south and west of LA 118 to Natchitoches Parish line.

iv. Vernon - East of Mora-Hutton Road from Natchitoches Parish line to Hillman Loop Road, south and east of Hillman Loop Road to Comrade Road, south of Comrade Road to LA 465, east and north of LA 465 to Rapides Parish line.

3. Area 3

a. All of Acadia, Cameron and Vermilion Parishes are open.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen - South of US 190 and west of LA 113.

ii. Beauregard - West of LA 113 and east of LA 27 from the parish line northward to DeRidder and north of US 190 westward from DeRidder to Texas state line.

iii. Calcasieu - South of US 90 from Sulphur to Texas state line. Also east of LA 27 from Sulphur northward to the parish line.

iv. Iberia - West of US 90 and north of LA 14.

v. Jefferson Davis - All EXCEPT north of US 190.

vi. Lafayette - West of I-49 and US 90.

vii. Rapides - South of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line.

viii. St. Landry - West of US 167.

ix. Vernon - West and north of LA 113, south of LA 465, east of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville, and south of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

4. Area 4

a. All of Richland parish is open.

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. East Carroll - West of mainline Mississippi River Levee and north and west of LA 877 from West Carroll Parish line to LA 580, north of LA 580 to US 65, east of US 65 to Madison Parish line.

ii. Morehouse - East of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, south and east of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), east of LA 830-4 to Bastrop, east of LA 139 at Bastrop to junction of LA 593, east and north of LA 593 to Collinston, east of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and south of LA 134 to Ouachita line at Wham Brake.

iii. Ouachita - South of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse line at Wham Bake.

5. Area 5

a. All of West Carroll Parish is open.

6. Area 6

a. All of the following parishes are open: Ascension, Assumption, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Martin, Terrebonne, West Baton Rouge.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Avoyelles - All except that portion west of I-49.

ii. Evangeline - That portion east of I-49 to junction of LA 29, east of LA 29 south of I-49 to Ville Platte and north of US 167 east of Ville Platte.

iii. Iberia - East of US 90.

iv. Lafayette - East of I-49 and US 90.

v. Livingston - South of I-12.

vi. Rapides - South of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to the junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line.

vii. St. Landry - East of US 167.

viii. St. Mary - North of US 90 from Iberia Parish line eastward to Wax Lake Outlet, east of Wax Lake Outlet southward to Intracoastal Waterway, north of Intracoastal Waterway eastward to the Atchafalaya River, east of the Atchafalaya River southward to Bayou Shaffer, north of Bayou Shaffer to Bateman Lake, north and west of Bayou Chene from Bateman Lake to Lake Palourde.

ix. St. Tammany - That portion south of I-12, west of LA 1077 to LA 22, south of LA 22 to Tchefuncte River, west of Tchefuncte River southward to Lake Pontchartrain.

x. Tangipahoa - South of I-12.

xi. West Feliciana - West of Mississippi River, known as Raccourci and Turnbull Islands.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Avoyelles - North of LA 1 from Simmesport westward to LA 115 at Marksville, east of LA 115 from Marksville northward to the Red River near Moncla, south and west of the Red River to LA 1 at Simmesport.

ii. Plaquemines - East of the Mississippi River.

iii. Rapides - South of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to the junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line.

iv. St. Bernard - All of the parish shall be still hunting only EXCEPT that portion of St. Bernard known as the spoil area between the MRGO on the east and Access Canal on the west, south of Bayou Bienvenue and north of Bayou la Loutre.

v. St. John - South of Pass Manchac from Lake Pontchartrain to US 51, east of US 51 from Pass Manchac to LA 638 (Frenier Beach Road). North of LA 638 from US 51 to Lake Pontchartrain, west of Lake Pontchartrain from LA 638 to Pass Manchac.

vi. St. Landry - Those lands surrounding Thistlethwaite WMA bounded north and east by LA 359, west by LA 10, and south by LA 103.

vii. HIGH WATER BENCHMARK CLOSURE. Deer hunting in those portions of Iberia, Iberville, St. Martin, and St. Mary parishes south of I-10, west of the East Guide Levee, east of the West Guide Levee, and north of US 90 will be closed when the river stage of the Atchafalaya River reaches 18 feet at Butte LaRose.

7. Area 7

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Iberia - South of LA 14 and west of US 90.

ii. St. Mary - All EXCEPT that portion north of US 90 from Iberia Parish line eastward to Wax Lake

Outlet, east of Wax Lake Outlet southward to Intracoastal Waterway, north of Intracoastal Waterway eastward to the Atchafalaya River, east of the Atchafalaya River southward to Bayou Shaffer, north of Bayou Shaffer to Bateman Lake, north and west of Bayou Chene from Bateman Lake to Lake Palourde.

8. Area 8

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Allen - That portion east of LA 113 from the parish line to US 190, north of US 190 eastward to Kinder, west of US 165 northward to LA 10 at Oakdale and south of LA 10 from Oakdale westward to parish line.

ii. Beauregard - That portion east of LA 113. Also that portion west of LA 27 from parish line northward to DeRidder, south of US 190 from DeRidder to Texas state line.

iii. Calcasieu - That portion east of LA 27 from the parish line southward to Sulphur and north of US 90 from Sulphur to the Texas state line.

iv. Vernon - That portion west of LA 113 from the parish line northward to Pitkin and south of LA 10 from Pitkin southward to the parish line.

F G. Description of Areas, 2012-2013

1. Area 1

a. All of the following parishes are open: Concordia, East Baton Rouge, East Carroll, East Feliciana, Franklin, Madison, Richland, St. Helena, Tensas, Washington.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Catahoula - East of Boeuf River to Ouachita River, east of Ouachita River from its confluence with Boeuf River to LA 8, south and east of LA 8 southwesterly to Parish line.

ii. East Carroll - East of mainline Mississippi River Levee and south and east of LA 877 from West Carroll Parish line to LA 580, south of LA 580 to US 65, west of US 65 to Madison Parish line.

iii. Grant - East of US 165 and south of LA 8.

iv. LaSalle - South of a line beginning where Little River enters Catahoula Lake following the center of the lake eastward to Old River then to US 84, east of US 84 northward to LA 8, south of LA 8 eastward to Parish line.

v. Livingston - North of I-12.

vi. Ouachita - South of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse line at Wham Bake.

vii. Rapides - East of US 165 and north of Red River.

viii. St. Tammany - All EXCEPT that portion south of I-12, west of LA 1077 to LA 22, south of LA 22 to Tchefuncte River, west of Tchefuncte River southward to Lake Pontchartrain.

~~viii~~ ix. Tangipahoa - North of I-12.

~~ix~~. West Feliciana - All EXCEPT that portion known as Raccourci and Turnbull Island.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Catahoula - South of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west of LA 8 to LA 913, west of LA 913 and LA 15 to Deer Creek.

ii. East Carroll - ~~All. East of mainline Mississippi River Levee and south and east of LA 877 from West Carroll Parish line to LA 580, south of LA 580 to US 65, west of US 65 to Madison Parish line.~~

iii. East Feliciana and East Baton Rouge - East of Thompson Creek from the Mississippi state line to LA 10, north of LA 10 from Thompson Creek to LA 67 at Clinton, west of LA 67 from Clinton to Mississippi state line, south of Mississippi state line from LA 67 to Thompson Creek. Also that portion of East Baton Rouge Parish east of LA 67 from LA 64

north to Parish Line, south of Parish Line from LA 64 eastward to Amite River, west of Amite River southward to LA 64, north of LA 64 to LA 37 at Magnolia, east of LA 37 northward to LA 64 at Indian Mound, north of LA 64 from Indian Mound to LA 67. Also, that portion of East Feliciana Parish east of LA 67 from parish line north to LA 959, south of LA 959 east to LA 63, west of LA 63 to Amite River, west of Amite River southward to parish line, north of parish line westward to LA 67.

iv. Franklin - All.

v. Morehouse - East of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, south and east of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), east of LA 830-4 to Bastrop, east of LA 139 at Bastrop to junction of LA 593, east and north of LA 593 to Collinston, east of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and south of LA 134 to Ouachita line at Wham Brake.

vi. Ouachita - South of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse line at Wham Bake.

vii. Richland - All.

viii. St. Helena - North of LA 16 from Tickfaw River at Montpelier westward to LA 449, east and south of LA 449 from LA 16 at Pine Grove northward to Rohner Road, south of Rohner Road to LA 1045, south of LA 1045 to the Tickfaw River, west of the Tickfaw River from LA 1045 southward to LA 16 at Montpelier.

ix. Tangipahoa - That portion of Tangipahoa Parish north of LA 10 from the Tchefuncte River to LA 1061 at Wilmer, east of LA 1061 to LA 440 at Bolivar, south of LA 440 to the Tchefuncte River, west of the Tchefuncte River from LA 440 southward to LA 10.

x. Washington and St. Tammany - East of LA 21 from the Mississippi state line southward to the Bogue Chitto River, north of the Bogue Chitto River from LA 21 eastward to the Pearl River Navigation Canal, east of the Pearl River Navigation Canal southward to the West Pearl River, north of the West Pearl River from the Pearl River Navigation Canal to Holmes Bayou, west of Holmes Bayou from the West Pearl River northward to the Pearl River, west of the Pearl River from Holmes Bayou northward to the Mississippi state line, south of the Mississippi state line from the Pearl River westward to LA

21. Also, that portion of Washington Parish west of LA 25 from the Mississippi state line southward to the Bogue Chitto River, then west of the Bogue Chitto River to its junction with the St. Tammany Parish line, north of the St. Tammany Parish line to the Tangipahoa Parish line, east of the Tangipahoa Parish line to the Mississippi state line, south of the Mississippi state line to its junction with LA 25.

~~viii~~ xi. West Feliciana - West of Thompson Creek to Illinois-Central Railroad, north of Illinois-Central Railroad to Parish Road #7, east of Parish Road #7 to the junction of US 61 and LA 966, east of LA 966 from US 61 to Chaney Creek, south of Chaney Creek to Thompson Creek.

2. Area 2

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Claiborne, DeSoto, Jackson, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Union, Webster, Winn.

ii. EXCEPT: Kisatchie National Forest which has special regulations. Caney, Corney, Middlefork tracts of Kisatchie have the same regulations as Area 2, EXCEPT still hunting only for deer and EXCEPT National Forest Land within the Evangeline Unit, Calcasieu Ranger District described in Area 2 description shall be still hunting only.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen - North of US 190 from parish line westward to Kinder, east of US 165 from Kinder northward to LA 10 at Oakdale, north of LA 10 from Oakdale westward to the parish line.

ii. Avoyelles - That portion west of I-49.

iii. Catahoula - West of Boeuf River to Ouachita River, west of Ouachita River from its confluence with Boeuf River to LA 8, north and west of LA 8 southwesterly to Parish line.

iv. Evangeline - All EXCEPT the following portions: east of I-49 to junction of LA 29, east of LA 29 south of I-49 to Ville Platte, and north of US 167 east of Ville

Platte.

v. Grant - All EXCEPT that portion south of LA 8 and east of US 165.

vi. Jefferson Davis - North of US 190.

vii. LaSalle - North of a line beginning where Little River enters Catahoula Lake, following the center of the lake eastward to Old River then to US 84, west of US 84 northward to LA 8, north of LA 8 eastward to Parish line.

viii. Morehouse - West of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to Bastrop, west of LA 139 to junction of LA 593, west and south of LA 593 to Collinston, west of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and north of LA 134 to Ouachita Parish line at Wham Brake.

ix. Ouachita - All EXCEPT south of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse Parish line at Wham Brake.

x. Rapides - All EXCEPT north of Red River and east of US 165, south of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill, and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line, and that portion south of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line.

xi. Vernon - North of LA 10 from the parish line westward to LA 113, south of LA 113 eastward to parish line. Also the portion north of LA 465 west of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville and north of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Claiborne and Webster - Caney, Corney and Middlefork tracts of Kisatchie National Forest. (See Kisatchie National Forest Regulations).

ii. Ouachita - East of Ouachita River.

iii. Rapides - West of US 167 from Alexandria southward to I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, west of I-49 southward to Parish Line, north of Parish Line westward to US 165, east of US 165 northward to US 167 at Alexandria. North of LA 465 from Vernon Parish line to LA 121, west of LA 121 to I-49, west of I-49 to LA 8, south and east of LA 8 to LA 118 (Mora Road), south and west of LA 118 to Natchitoches Parish line.

iv. Vernon - East of Mora-Hutton Road from Natchitoches Parish line to Hillman Loop Road, south and east of Hillman Loop Road to Comrade Road, south of Comrade Road to LA 465, east and north of LA 465 to Rapides Parish line.

3. Area 3

a. All of Acadia, Cameron and Vermilion Parishes are open.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen - South of US 190 and west of LA 113.

ii. Beauregard - West of LA 113 and east of LA 27 from the parish line northward to DeRidder and north of US 190 westward from DeRidder to Texas state line.

iii. Calcasieu - South of US 90 from Sulphur to Texas state line. Also east of LA 27 from Sulphur northward to the parish line.

iv. Iberia - West of US 90 and north of LA 14.

v. Jefferson Davis - All EXCEPT north of US 190.

vi. Lafayette - West of I-49 and US 90.

vii. Rapides - South of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line.

viii. St. Landry - West of US 167.

ix. Vernon - West and north of LA 113,

south of LA 465, east of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville, and south of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

4. ~~See Area 1. Area 4~~

~~a. All of Richland parish is open.~~

~~b. Portions of the following parishes are open:~~

~~i. East Carroll West of mainline Mississippi River Levee and north and west of LA 877 from West Carroll Parish line to LA 580, north of LA 580 to US 65, east of US 65 to Madison Parish line.~~

~~ii. Morehouse East of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, south and east of LA 140 to junction of LA 830 4 (Cooper Lake Road), east of LA 830 4 to Bastrop, east of LA 139 at Bastrop to junction of LA 593, east and north of LA 593 to Collinston, east of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and south of LA 134 to Ouachita line at Wham Brake.~~

~~iii. Ouachita South of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse line at Wham Bake.~~

5. Area 5

a. All of West Carroll Parish is open.

6. Area 6

a. All of the following parishes are open: Ascension, Assumption, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Martin, Terrebonne, West Baton Rouge.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Avoyelles - All except that portion west of I-49.

ii. Evangeline - That portion east of I-49 to junction of LA 29, east of LA 29 south of I-49 to Ville Platte and north of US 167 east of Ville Platte.

iii. Iberia - East of US 90.

iv. Lafayette - East of I-49 and US 90.

v. Livingston - South of I-12.

vi. Rapides - South of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to the junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line.

vii. St. Landry - East of US 167.

viii. St. Mary - North of US 90 from Iberia Parish line eastward to Wax Lake Outlet, east of Wax Lake Outlet southward to Intracoastal Waterway, north of Intracoastal Waterway eastward to the Atchafalaya River, east of the Atchafalaya River southward to Bayou Shaffer, north of Bayou Shaffer to Bateman Lake, north and west of Bayou Chene from Bateman Lake to Lake Palourde.

ix. St. Tammany - That portion south of I-12, west of LA 1077 to LA 22, south of LA 22 to Tchefuncte River, west of Tchefuncte River southward to Lake Pontchartrain.

x. Tangipahoa - South of I-12.

xi. West Feliciana - West of Mississippi River, known as Raccourci and Turnbull Islands.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Avoyelles - North of LA 1 from Simmesport westward to LA 115 at Marksville, east of LA 115 from Marksville northward to the Red River near Moncla, south and west of the Red River to LA 1 at Simmesport.

ii. Plaquemines - East of the Mississippi River.

iii. Rapides - South of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to the junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line.

iv. St. Bernard - All of the parish shall be still hunting only EXCEPT that portion of St. Bernard known as the spoil area between the MRGO on the east and Access Canal on the west, south of Bayou Bienvenue and north of Bayou la

Loutre.

v. St. John - South of Pass Manchac from Lake Pontchartrain to US 51, east of US 51 from Pass Manchac to LA 638 (Frenier Beach Road). North of LA 638 from US 51 to Lake Pontchartrain, west of Lake Pontchartrain from LA 638 to Pass Manchac.

vi. St. Landry - Those lands surrounding Thistlethwaite WMA bounded north and east by LA 359, west by LA 10, and south by LA 103.

vii. HIGH WATER BENCHMARK CLOSURE. Deer hunting in those portions of Iberia, Iberville, St. Martin, and St. Mary parishes south of I-10, west of the East Guide Levee, east of the West Guide Levee, and north of US 90 will be closed when the river stage of the Atchafalaya River reaches 18 feet at Butte LaRose.

7. Area 7

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Iberia - South of LA 14 and west of US 90.

ii. St. Mary - All EXCEPT that portion north of US 90 from Iberia Parish line eastward to Wax Lake Outlet, east of Wax Lake Outlet southward to Intracoastal Waterway, north of Intracoastal Waterway eastward to the Atchafalaya River, east of the Atchafalaya River southward to Bayou Shaffer, north of Bayou Shaffer to Bateman Lake, north and west of Bayou Chene from Bateman Lake to Lake Palourde.

8. Area 8

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Allen - That portion east of LA 113 from the parish line to US 190, north of US 190 eastward to Kinder, west of US 165 northward to LA 10 at Oakdale and south of LA 10 from Oakdale westward to parish line.

ii. Beauregard - That portion east of LA 113. Also that portion west of LA 27 from parish line northward to DeRidder, south of US 190 from DeRidder to Texas state line.

iii. Calcasieu - That portion east of LA 27 from the parish line southward to Sulphur and north of US 90 from Sulphur to the Texas state line.

iv. Vernon - That portion west of LA 113 from the parish line northward to Pitkin and south of LA 10 from Pitkin southward to the parish line.

¶ H. WMA Regulations

1. General

a. The following rules and regulations concerning the management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Section 109 of Title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

b. Citizens are cautioned that by entering a WMA managed by the LDWF they may be subjecting themselves and/or their vehicles to game and/or license checks, inspections and searches.

c. WMA seasons may be altered or closed anytime by the LDWF Secretary in emergency situations (floods, fire or other critical circumstances).

d. Hunters may enter the WMA no earlier than 4:00 a.m. unless otherwise specified. Hunters must check out and exit the WMA no later than two hours after sunset, or as otherwise specified.

e. Lands within WMA boundaries will have the same seasons and regulations pertaining to baiting and use of dogs as the WMA within which the lands are enclosed; however, with respect to private lands enclosed within a WMA, the owner or lessee may elect to hunt according to the regular season dates and hunting regulations applicable to the geographic area in which the lands are located, provided that the lands are first enrolled in DMAP ~~or LADP~~. Interested parties should contact the nearest LDWF region office for additional information.

f. Dumping garbage or trash on WMAs is prohibited. Garbage and trash may be properly disposed of in

designated locations if provided.

g. Disorderly conduct or hunting under influence of alcoholic beverages, chemicals and other similar substances is prohibited.

h. Damage to or removal of trees, shrubs, hard mast (including but not limited acorn and pecans), wild plants, non-game wildlife (including reptiles and amphibians) or any species of butterflies, skippers or moths is prohibited without a permit from the LDWF. Gathering and/or removal of soft fruits, mushrooms and berries shall be limited to 5 gallons per person per day.

i. Burning of marshes is prohibited. Hunting actively burning marsh prohibited.

j. Nature trails. Trails shall be limited to pedestrians only. No vehicles, ATVs, horses, mules, bicycles, etc. allowed. Removal of vegetation (standing or down) or other natural material prohibited.

k. Deer seasons are for legal buck deer unless otherwise specified.

l. Small game, when listed under the WMA regulations may include both resident game animals and game birds as well as migratory species of birds.

m. Oysters may not be harvested from any WMA, EXCEPT that oysters may be harvested from private oyster leases and State Seed Grounds located within a WMA, when authorized by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and upon approval by the Department of Health and Hospitals.

n. Free ranging livestock prohibited.

2. Permits

a. A WMA Hunting Permit is required for persons ages 18 through 59 to hunt on WMAs.

b. Self-Clearing Permits. A Self-Clearing Permit is required for ALL ACTIVITIES (hunting, fishing, hiking, birdwatching, sightseeing, etc.) on WMAs unless otherwise specified. The Self-Clearing Permit will consist of ~~three~~ two portions: CHECK IN, CHECK OUT ~~and a Vehicle Tag~~. On WMAs where

Self-Clearing Permits are required, all persons must obtain a WMA Self-Clearing Permit from an Information Station. The CHECK IN portion MUST be completed and put in a permit box BEFORE each day's activity on the day of the activity (EXCEPT if hunting from a private camp adjacent to the WMA being hunted or if camping on the WMA, users need only to check in once during any 72 hour period). Users may check-in one day in advance of use. The CHECK OUT portion must be carried by each person while on the WMA and MUST be completed and put in a permit box immediately upon exiting the WMA or within 72 hours after checking in if hunting from a private camp adjacent to the WMA being hunted or if camping on the WMA. ~~EACH PERSON MUST leave the Vehicle Tag portion of his permit on the dashboard of the vehicle used to enter into the WMA in such a way that it can be easily read from outside of the vehicle. This MUST be done only when the vehicle is parked and left unattended on the WMA. If an ATV, boat or other type vehicle was used to enter the WMA, then the vehicle tag must be attached to that vehicle in such a manner that it can be readily seen and read.~~ No permit is required of fishers and boaters who do not travel on a WMA road and/or launch on the WMA as long as they do not get out of the boat and onto the WMA. When Mandatory Deer Checks are specified on WMAs, hunters must check deer at a check station. (Self-Clearing Permits are not required for persons only traveling through the WMA provided that the most direct route is taken and no activities or stops take place.)

c. Persons using WMAs or other LDWF administered lands for any purpose must possess one of the following: a valid Wild Louisiana stamp, a valid Louisiana fishing license, or a valid Louisiana hunting license. Persons younger than 16 or older than 60 years of age are exempt from this requirement. Also a Self-Clearing WMA permit, detailed above, may be required (available at most entrances to each WMA). Check individual WMA listings for EXCEPTIONS.

3. Special Seasons

a. Youth Deer Hunt. Youths 17 or younger only. Youths must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older. Youths must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm. Youths may possess only one firearm while hunting. Legal firearms are the

same as described for deer hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. EXCEPT properly licensed youths 16-17 years old and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult. Contact the appropriate region office for maps of specific hunting areas. Either-sex deer may be taken on WMAs with youth hunts. Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering youth hunts. NOTE: Some hunts may be by pre-application lottery.

b. Youth Squirrel Hunt (on selected WMAs only). Only youths 17 or younger may hunt. Squirrel, rabbit, raccoon and opossum may be taken. Hogs may not be taken. No dogs allowed. All other seasons will remain open to other hunters. Youths must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Youths must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm. Youths may possess only one firearm while hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. EXCEPT properly licensed youths 16-17 years old and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult. Self-clearing permits are required. Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering youth squirrel hunts.

c. Youth Mourning Dove Hunt. A youth mourning dove hunt will be conducted on specific WMAs and will follow the same regulations provided for youth deer hunts on the first or second weekend of the mourning dove season (Saturday and/or Sunday only). Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering youth mourning dove hunts.

d. Physically Challenged Season. An either-sex deer season will be held for hunters possessing a Physically Challenged Hunter Permit on WMAs during the dates specified under the individual WMA. Participants must possess a Physically Challenged Hunter Permit. Contact region office for permit application and map of specific hunting area. Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering Physically Challenged Seasons. Pointe-aux-Chenes will have an experimental Lottery Physically Challenged waterfowl hunt. Contact New Iberia Office, Coastal and Nongame Resources Division for details.

e. Turkey Lottery Hunts. Hunts restricted to those persons selected by lottery. Consult the regulations pamphlet for deadlines. All turkeys must be reported at self-clearing station. Contact Region Offices for more details. Consult separate turkey hunting regulations pamphlet for more details.

f. Waterfowl Lottery Hunts. Hunts restricted to those persons selected by lottery. Consult the regulations pamphlet for deadline. Consult regulations pamphlet for individual WMA schedules or contact any Wildlife Division Office for more details.

g. Mourning Dove Lottery Hunts. Consult regulations pamphlet for individual WMA schedules or contact any Wildlife Division Office for more details.

h. Trapping. Consult Annual Trapping Regulations for specific dates. All traps must be run daily. Traps with teeth are illegal. Hunter orange required when a deer gun season is in progress.

i. Raccoon Hunting. A licensed hunter may take raccoon or opossum, one per person per day, during daylight hours only, during the open rabbit season on WMAs. NIGHTTIME EXPERIMENTAL - All nighttime raccoon hunting where allowed is with dogs only. There is no bag limit. Self-clearing permit required.

j. Sport Fishing. Sport fishing, crawfishing and frogging are allowed on WMAs when in compliance with current laws and regulations EXCEPT as otherwise specified under individual WMA listings.

k. Additional LDWF Lands. The LDWF manages additional lands that are included in the WMA system and available for public recreation. Small tracts are located in Vernon, Evangeline, St. Helena and other parishes. These small tracts have been acquired from the Farmers Home Administration or other sources for conservation purposes. Contact the appropriate LDWF Region Office for specific information and any additional season dates.

4. Firearms

a. Firearms having live ammunition in the chamber, magazine, cylinder or clip when attached to firearms

and crossbows cocked in the ready position are not allowed in or on vehicles, boats under power, motorcycles, ATVs, ATCs or in camping areas on WMAs. Firearms may not be carried on any area before or after permitted hours except in authorized camping areas and except as may be permitted for authorized trappers.

b. Firearms and bows and arrows are not allowed on WMAs during closed seasons EXCEPT on designated shooting ranges or as permitted for trapping and EXCEPT as allowed pursuant to R.S. 56:109.C and R.S. 56:1691. Bows and broadhead arrows are not allowed on WMAs EXCEPT during deer archery season, turkey season or as permitted for bowfishing. Active and retired law enforcement officers in compliance with POST requirements, Federal Law Enforcement Officers and holders of Louisiana concealed handgun permits or permit holders from a reciprocal state who are in compliance with all other state and federal firearms regulations may possess firearms on WMAs provided these firearms are not used for any hunting purpose.

c. Encased or broken down firearms and any game harvested may be transported through the areas by the most direct route provided that no other route exists EXCEPT as specified under WMA listing.

d. Loaded firearms are not allowed near WMA check stations.

e. Centerfire rifles and handguns larger than .22 caliber rimfire, shotgun slugs or shot larger than BB lead or F steel shot cannot be carried onto any WMA EXCEPT during modern firearm deer season and during special shotgun season for feral hogs on Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes and Salvador WMAs (consult regulations pamphlet for specific WMA regulations).

f. Target shooting and other forms of practice shooting are prohibited on WMAs EXCEPT as otherwise specified.

g. Discharging of firearms on or hunting from designated roads, ATV trails and their rights-of-way is prohibited during the modern firearm and muzzleloader deer season.

5. Methods of Taking Game

a. Moving deer or hogs on a WMA with organized drivers and standers, drivers or making use of noises or noise-

making devices is prohibited.

b. On WMAs the daily limit shall be one antlered deer and one antlerless deer (when legal) per day. Three antlered and three antlerless per season (all segments included) by all methods of take.

c. Baiting or hunting over bait is prohibited on all WMAs (hogs included).

d. Deer may not be skinned nor have any external body parts removed including but not limited to feet, legs, tail, head or ears before being checked out.

e. Deer hunting on WMAs is restricted to still hunting only.

f. Construction of and/or hunting from permanent tree stands or permanent blinds on WMAs is prohibited. Any permanent stand or permanent blind will be removed and destroyed. A permanent blind is any blind using non-natural materials or having a frame which is not dismantled within two hours after the end of legal shooting time each day. Blinds with frames of wood, plastic, metal poles, wire, mesh, webbing or other materials may be used but must be removed from the WMA within two hours after the end of legal shooting time each day. Blinds made solely of natural vegetation and not held together by nails or other metallic fasteners may be left in place but cannot be used to reserve hunting locations. Natural vegetation (including any material used as corner posts) is defined as natural branches that are 2 inches or less in diameter. All decoys must be removed from the WMA daily. Permanent tree stands are any stands that use nails, screws, spikes, etc., to attach to trees and are strictly prohibited. Portable deer stands (those that are designed to be routinely carried by one person) may not be left on WMAs unless the stands are removed from trees and left in a non-hunting position (a non-hunting position is one in which a hunter could not hunt from the stand in its present position). Also, all stands left must be legibly tagged with the user's name, address, phone number and Big Game Hunting License number (or Lifetime License Number). No stand may be left on any WMA prior to the day before deer season opens on that WMA and all stands must be removed from the WMA within one day after the close of deer hunting on that WMA. Free standing blinds must be disassembled when not in use. Stands left will not reserve hunting sites for the owner or user. All portable stands, blinds, tripods, etc. found unattended in a

hunting position or untagged will be confiscated and disposed of by the LDWF. LDWF not responsible for unattended stands left on an area.

g. Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer and Waterfowl Hunting Areas: Special deer and waterfowl hunting areas, blinds and stands identified with LDWF logos, have been established for PCHP wheelchair confined hunters on WMAs. Hunters must obtain PCHP permits and are required to make reservations to use blinds and stands. PCHP wheelchair hunting areas are available on Alexander State Forest, Big Colewa Bayou, Buckhorn, Clear Creek, Elbow Slough, Floy McElroy, Jackson-Bienville, Ouachita, and Sherburne WMAs. Check WMA hunting schedules or call the LDWF Offices in Pineville, Lake Charles, Opelousas, Minden, Monroe or Hammond for information.

h. Hunting from utility poles, high tension power lines, oil and gas exploration facilities or platforms is prohibited.

i. It is illegal to save or reserve hunting locations using permanent stands or blinds. Stands or blinds attached to trees with screws, nails, spikes, etc. are illegal.

j. Tree climbing spurs, spikes or screw-in steps are prohibited.

k. Unattended decoys will be confiscated and forfeited to the LDWF and disposed of by the LDWF. This action is necessary to prevent preemption of hunting space.

l. Spot lighting (shining) from vehicles is prohibited on all WMAs.

m. Horses and mules may be ridden on WMAs except where prohibited and except during gun seasons for deer and turkey. Riding is restricted to designated roads and trails depicted on WMA map, self-clearing permit is required. Organized trail rides prohibited EXCEPT allowed by permit only on Camp Beauregard. Hunting and trapping from horses and mules is prohibited EXCEPT for quail hunting or as otherwise specified. Horse-drawn conveyances are prohibited.

n. All hunters (including archers and small game hunters) EXCEPT waterfowl hunters and mourning dove hunters on WMAs must display 400 square inches of "Hunter Orange" and wear a "Hunter Orange" cap during open gun season for deer.

Quail and woodcock hunters and hunters participating in special dog seasons for rabbit, squirrel and feral hogs are required to wear a minimum of a "Hunter Orange" cap. All other hunters and archers (while on the ground) except waterfowl hunters also must wear a minimum of a "Hunter Orange" cap during special dog seasons for rabbit and squirrel and feral hogs. ALSO all persons afield during hunting seasons are encouraged to display "Hunter Orange". Hunters participating in special shotgun season for feral hogs on Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes and Salvador WMAs must display 400 square inches of hunter orange and wear a "Hunter Orange" cap.

o. Deer hunters hunting from concealed ground blinds must display a minimum of 400 square inches of "Hunter Orange" above or around their blinds which is visible from 360 degrees.

p. Archery season for deer. The archery season on WMAs is the same as outside and is open for either-sex deer EXCEPT as otherwise specified on individual WMAs. Archery season restricted on Atchafalaya Delta and closed on certain WMAs when special seasons for youth or Physically Challenged hunts are in progress. Consult regulations pamphlet for specific seasons.

q. Either-sex deer may be taken on WMAs at any time during archery season EXCEPT when bucks only seasons are in progress on the respective WMAs. Archers must abide by bucks only regulations and other restrictions when such seasons are in progress.

r. Primitive Firearms season for deer. Either-sex unless otherwise specified. See WMA deer schedule. EXCEPT youth 17 or younger may use shotgun with slugs during primitive firearms season on the WMA.

6. Camping

a. Camping on WMAs, including trailers, houseboats, recreational vehicles and tents, is allowed only in designated areas and for a period not to exceed sixteen (16) consecutive days, regardless if the camp is attended or unattended. Houseboats shall not impede navigation. At the end of the 16 day period, camps must be removed from the area for at least 48 hours. Camping area use limited exclusively to outdoor recreational activities.

b. Houseboats are prohibited from overnight mooring within WMAs EXCEPT on stream banks adjacent to LDWF-owned designated camping areas. Overnight mooring of vessels that provide lodging for hire are prohibited on WMAs. On Atchafalaya Delta WMA and Pass-a-Loutre, houseboats may be moored in specially designated areas throughout the hunting season. At all other times of the year, mooring is limited to a period not to exceed sixteen (16) consecutive days. Permits are required for the mooring of houseboats on Pass-a-Loutre and Atchafalaya Delta WMAs. Permits must be obtained from the New Iberia office.

c. Discharge of human waste onto lands or waters of any WMA is strictly prohibited by State and Federal law. In the event public restroom facilities are not available at a WMA, the following is required. Anyone camping on a WMA in a camper, trailer, or other unit (other than a houseboat or tent) shall have and shall utilize an operational disposal system attached to the unit. Tent campers shall have and shall utilize portable waste disposal units and shall remove all human waste from the WMA upon leaving. Houseboats moored on a WMA shall have a permit or letter of certification from the Health Unit (Department of Health and Hospitals) of the parish within which the WMA occurs verifying that it has an approved sewerage disposal system on board. Further, that system shall be utilized by occupants of the houseboats when on the WMA.

d. No refuse or garbage may be dumped from these boats.

e. Firearms may not be kept loaded or discharged in a camping area unless otherwise specified.

f. Campsites must be cleaned by occupants prior to leaving and all refuse placed in designated locations when provided or carried off by campers.

g. Non-compliance with camping regulations will subject occupant to immediate expulsion and/or citation, including restitution for damages.

h. Swimming is prohibited within 100 yards of boat launching ramps.

7. Restricted Areas

a. For your safety, ALL oil and gas production

facilities (wells, pumping stations and storage facilities) are off limits.

b. No unauthorized entry or unauthorized hunting in restricted areas, refuges, or limited use areas unless otherwise specified.

8. Dogs. All use of dogs on WMAs, EXCEPT for bird hunting and duck hunting, is EXPERIMENTAL as required by law. Having or using dogs on any WMA is prohibited EXCEPT for nighttime experimental raccoon hunting, squirrel hunting, rabbit hunting, bird hunting, duck hunting, hog hunting and bird dog training when allowed; see individual WMA season listings for WMAs that allow dogs. Dogs running at large are prohibited on WMAs. The owner or handler of said dogs shall be liable. Only recognizable breeds of bird dogs and retrievers are allowed for quail and migratory bird hunting. Only beagle hounds which do not exceed 15 inches at the front shoulders and which have recognizable characteristics of the breed may be used on WMAs having experimental rabbit seasons. A leashed dog may be used to trail and retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer during legal hunting hours. Any dog used to trail or retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer shall have on a collar with owner's name, address and phone number. In addition, a dog may be used to trail and retrieve unrecovered deer after legal hunting hours; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort.

9. Vehicles

a. An all-terrain vehicle is an off-road vehicle (not legal for highway use) with factory specifications not to exceed the following: weight-750 pounds, length-85", and width-48". ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 25 x 12 with a maximum 1" lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 7 psi. as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer. Use of all other ATVs or ATV tires are prohibited on a WMA.

b. Utility Type Vehicle (UTV, also Utility Terrain Vehicle) is defined as any recreational motor vehicle other than an ATV, not legal for highway use, designed for and capable of travel over designated unpaved roads, traveling on four (4) or more low-pressure tires, with factory specifications not to exceed the following: weight-1900 pounds, length-128" and width-68". UTV tires are restricted to those no larger than 26 x 12 with a maximum 1" lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 12 psi. UTV's are commonly referred to as side by

sides and may include golf carts.

c. Vehicles having wheels with a wheel-tire combination having a radius of 17 inches or more from the center of the hub (measured horizontal to ground) are prohibited.

d. The testing, racing, speeding or unusual maneuvering of any type of vehicle is prohibited within WMAs due to property damages resulting in high maintenance costs, disturbance of wildlife and destruction of forest reproduction.

e. Tractor or implement tires with farm tread designs R1, R2 and R4 known commonly as spade or lug grip types are prohibited on all vehicles.

f. Airboats, aircraft, personal water craft, "mud crawling vessels" (commonly referred to as crawfish combines which use paddle wheels for locomotion) and hover craft are prohibited on all WMAs and Refuges. Personal water craft are defined as a vessel which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion and is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel. Personal water craft allowed on designated areas of Alexander State Forest WMA. Except, Type A personal water craft, model year 2003 and beyond, which are eight feet in length and greater, may be operated in the areas of Pearl River Wildlife Management Area, south of U.S. 90 from April 1 until the Monday of Labor Day Weekend, from sunrise to sunset only. No person shall operate such water craft at a speed greater than slow/no wake within 100 feet of an anchored or moored vessel, shoreline, dock, pier, persons engaged in angling or any other manually powered vessel.

g. Driving or parking vehicles on food or cover plots and strips is prohibited.

h. Blocking the entrance to roads and trails is prohibited.

i. Licensed motorized vehicles (LMVs) legal for highway use, including motorcycles, are restricted entirely to designated roads as indicated on WMA maps. UTVs are restricted to marked UTV trails only. ATVs are restricted to marked ATV trails only, EXCEPT when WMA roads are closed to LMVs. ATVs may then use those roads when allowed. WMA maps available at all region offices. This restriction does not apply to bicycles.

NOTE: All ATV and UTV trails are marked with signs and/or paint, but not all ATV and UTV trails appear on WMA maps.

j. Use of special ATV trails for Physically Challenged persons is restricted to ATV Physically Challenged permittees. Physically Challenged ATV permittees are restricted to Physically Challenged ATV trails or other ATV trails only as indicated on WMA maps or as marked by sign and/or paint. Persons 60 years of age and older, with proof of age, are also allowed to use special Physically Challenged trails and need not obtain a permit. However, these persons must abide by all rules in place for these trails. Physically Challenged persons under the age of 60 must apply for and obtain a Physically Challenged Hunter Program Permit from the LDWF.

k. Entrances to ATV trails will be marked with peach colored paint. Entrances to Physically Challenged-only ATV trails will be marked with blue colored paint. Entrances to ATV trails that are open all year long will be marked with purple paint. The end of all ATV trails will be marked by red paint. WMA maps serve only as a general guide to the route of most ATV trails, therefore all signage and paint marking as previously described will be used to determine compliance. Deviation from this will constitute a violation of WMA rules and regulations.

l. Roads and trails may be closed due to poor condition, construction or wet weather.

m. ATVs, and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT on designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 4:00 AM, EXCEPT raccoon hunters may use ATVs during nighttime raccoon take seasons only. ATVs are prohibited from March 1 through August 31 EXCEPT squirrel hunters are allowed to use ATV trails during the spring squirrel season on the WMA and except certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes and some ATV trails will be open all year long on certain WMAs.

n. CAUTION: Many LDWF-maintained roadways on WMAs are unimproved and substandard. A maximum 20 mph speed limit is recommended for all land vehicles using these roads.

o. Hunters are allowed to retrieve their own downed deer and hogs with the aid of an ATV except on Thistlethwaite and Sherburne WMAs under the following conditions:

i. No firearms or archery equipment is in possession of the retrieval party or on the ATV;

ii. The retrieval party may consist of no more than one ATV and one helper;

iii. ATVs may not be used to locate or search for wounded game or for any other purpose than retrieval of deer and hogs once they have been legally harvested and located.

iv. UTV's may not be used to retrieve downed deer or hogs.

10. Commercial Activities.

a. Hunting Guides/Outfitters: No person or group may act as a hunting guide, outfitter or in any other capacity for which they are paid or promised to be paid directly or indirectly by any other individual or individuals for services rendered to any other person or persons hunting on any WMA, regardless of whether such payment is for guiding, outfitting, lodging or club memberships.

b. Except for licensed activities otherwise allowed by law, commercial activities are prohibited without a permit issued by the Secretary of the LDWF.

c. Commercial fishing. Permits are required of all commercial fishermen using Grassy Lake, Pomme de Terre and Spring Bayou WMAs. Gill nets or trammel nets and the take or possession of grass carp are prohibited on Spring Bayou WMA. Drag seines (except minnow and bait seines) are prohibited EXCEPT experimental bait seines allowed on Dewey Wills WMA north of LA 28 in Diversion Canal. Commercial fishing is prohibited during regular waterfowl seasons on Grand Bay, Silver Lake and Lower Sunk Lake on Three Rivers WMA. Commercial fishing is prohibited on Salvador/Timken, Ouachita and Pointe-aux-Chenes WMAs EXCEPT commercial fishing on Pointe-aux-Chenes is allowed in Cut Off Canal and Wonder Lake. No commercial fishing activity shall impede navigation and no unattended vessels or barges will be allowed. Non-compliance with permit regulations will result in revocation of commercial fishing privileges for the period the license is issued and one year thereafter. Commercial fishing is allowed on Pass-a-Loutre and Atchafalaya Delta WMAs. See Pass-a-Loutre for additional commercial fishing

regulations on mullet.

11. WMAs Basic Season Structure. For season dates, bag limits, shooting hours, special seasons and other information consult the annual regulations pamphlet for specific details.

12. Resident Small Game (squirrel, rabbit, quail, mourning dove, woodcock, snipe, rail and gallinule). Same as outside EXCEPT closed during modern firearm either-sex deer seasons on certain WMAs (See WMA schedule) and EXCEPT non-toxic shot must be used for rail, snipe, and gallinule. Consult regulations pamphlet. Unless otherwise specified under a specific WMA hunting schedule, the use of dogs for rabbit and squirrel hunting is prohibited. Spring squirrel season with or without dogs: 1st Saturday of May for 9 days. Consult regulations pamphlet for specific WMAs.

13. Waterfowl (ducks, geese and coots). Consult regulations pamphlet. Hunting after 2 p.m. prohibited on all WMAs EXCEPT for Atchafalaya Delta, Biloxi, Lake Boeuf, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes, and Salvador/Timken WMAs. Consult specific WMA regulations for shooting hours on these WMAs.

14. Archery. Consult regulations pamphlet.

15. Hogs. Consult regulations pamphlet for specific WMA regulations. Feral hogs may be taken during any legal hunting season, EXCEPT during the spring squirrel season, on designated WMAs by properly licensed hunters using only guns or bow and arrow legal for specified seasons in progress. Hogs may not be taken with the aid of dogs, EXCEPT feral hogs may be taken with the aid of dogs on Attakapas, Bodcau, Boeuf, Dewey Wills, Jackson-Bienville, Pearl River, Red River, Sabine and Three Rivers WMAs (consult Bodcau, Dewey Wills, Jackson-Bienville, Pass-a-Loutre, Pearl River, Red River, Sabine and Three Rivers WMAs regulations) by permit from either the Minden, Pineville, Hammond or Opelousas Offices and all hogs must be killed immediately and may not be transported live under any conditions, except as allowed by permit, and hunters may use centerfire pistols in addition to using guns allowed for season in progress. Additionally, feral hogs may be taken on Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes and Salvador WMAs from February 16 through March 31 with shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs.

16. Outlaw Quadrupeds and Birds. Consult regulations

pamphlet. During hunting seasons specified on WMAs, except the turkey and spring squirrel seasons, take of outlaw quadrupeds and birds, with or without the use of electronic calls, is allowed by properly licensed hunters and only with guns or bows and arrows legal for season in progress on WMA. However, crows, blackbirds, grackles and cowbirds may not be taken before September 1 or after January 1. As described in 50 CFR Part 21, non-toxic shot must be used for the take of crows, blackbirds, cowbirds and grackles under the special depredation order. In addition an annual report has to be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for those that participate in the take of these species.

17. WMAs Hunting Schedule and Regulations:

a. Acadiana Conservation Corridor.

b. Alexander State Forest. From December through February all hunters must check daily with the Office of Forestry for scheduled burning activity. No hunting or other activity will be permitted in burn units the day of the burning. Call 318-487-5172 or 318-487-5058 for information on burning schedules. Vehicles restricted to paved and graveled roads. No parking on or fishing or swimming from bridges. No open fires EXCEPT in recreation areas.

c. Atchafalaya Delta. Water control structures are not to be tampered with or altered by anyone other than employees of the LDWF at any time. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles prohibited EXCEPT as permitted for authorized WMA trappers. Mudboats or air-cooled propulsion engines greater than 36 horsepower are prohibited on the WMA. Limited access area - no internal combustion engines allowed from September through January. See WMA map for specific locations.

d. Attakapas.

e. Bayou Macon. All night activities prohibited except as otherwise provided.

f. Bayou Pierre

g. Bens Creek

h. Big Colewa Bayou. All nighttime activities prohibited.

- i. Big Lake.
- j. Biloxi.
- k. Bodcau.
- l. Boeuf.
- m. Buckhorn.
- n. Camp Beauregard. Daily military clearance required for all recreational users. Registration for use of Self-Clearing Permit required once per year. All game harvested must be reported on self-clearing checkout permit. Retriever training allowed on selected portions of the WMA. Contact the Region office for specific details. No hunting in restricted areas.
- o. Clear Creek (formerly Boise-Vernon).
- p. Dewey W. Wills. Crawfish: 100 pounds per person per day.
- q. Elbow Slough. Steel shot only for all hunting. All motorized vehicles prohibited.
- r. Elm Hall. No ATVs allowed.
- s. Floy Ward McElroy.
- t. Fort Polk. Daily military clearance required to hunt or trap. Registration for use of Self-Clearing Permit required once per year. New special regulations apply to ATV users.
- u. Grassy Lake. Commercial Fishing: Permitted EXCEPT on Smith Bay, Red River Bay and Grassy Lake proper on Saturday and Sunday and during waterfowl season. Permits available from area supervisor at Spring Bayou headquarters or Opelousas Region Office. No hunting in restricted area.
- v. Jackson-Bienville.
- w. Joyce. Swamp Walk: Adhere to all WMA rules and regulations. No loaded firearms or hunting allowed within 100 yards of walkways. Check hunting schedule and use walkway at your own risk.

x. Lake Boeuf. Hunting allowed until 12:00 noon on all game. All nighttime activities prohibited.

y. Lake Ramsay. Foot traffic only - all vehicles restricted to Parish Roads.

z. Little River.

aa. Loggy Bayou.

bb. Manchac. Crabs: No crab traps allowed. Attended lift nets are allowed.

cc. Maurepas Swamp. No loaded firearms or hunting allowed within 100 yards of Nature Trail.

dd. Ouachita. Waterfowl Refuge: North of LA 15 closed to all hunting, fishing and trapping and ATV use during duck season including early teal season. Crawfish: 100 pounds per person per day limit. Night crawfishing prohibited. No traps or nets left overnight. Commercial Fishing: Closed. All nighttime activities prohibited except as otherwise provided.

ee. Pass-a-Loutre. Commercial Fishing: Same as outside. Commercial mullet fishing open only in: South Pass, Pass-a-Loutre, North Pass, Southeast Pass, Northeast Pass, Dennis Pass, Johnson Pass, Loomis Pass, Cadro Pass, Wright Pass, Viveats Pass, Cognevich Pass, Blind Bay, Redfish Bay, Garden Island Bay, Northshore Bay, East Bay (west of barrier islands) and oil and gas canals as described on the LDWF Pass-a-Loutre WMA map. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles prohibited on this area. Oyster harvesting is prohibited. Mudboats or air-cooled propulsion engines greater than 36 horsepower are prohibited on the WMA. Limited access area - no internal combustion engines allowed from September through January. See WMA map for specific locations.

ff. Pearl River. All roads closed 8 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. to all vehicles. Old Hwy. 11 will be closed when river gauge at Pearl River, Louisiana, reaches 16.5 feet. All hunting except waterfowl will be closed when the river stage at Pearl River reaches 16.5 feet. No hunting in the vicinity of Nature Trail. Observe "No Hunting" signs. Rifle range open Friday, Saturday and Sunday with a fee. Except, Type A personal water craft, model year 2003 and beyond, which are eight feet in length and greater, may be operated in the areas of Pearl River

Wildlife Management Area, south of U.S. 90 from April 1 until the Monday of Labor Day Weekend, from sunrise to sunset only. No person shall operate such water craft at a speed greater than slow/no wake within 100 feet of an anchored or moored vessel, shoreline, dock, pier, persons engaged in angling or any other manually powered vessel.

gg. Peason Ridge. Daily military clearance required to hunt or trap. Registration for use of Self-Clearing Permit required once per year. Special federal regulations apply to ATV users.

hh. Pointe-aux-Chenes. Hunting until 12 noon on ALL GAME, EXCEPT for mourning dove hunting and youth lottery deer hunt as specified in regulation pamphlet. Point Farm: Gate will be open all weekends during month of February. No motorized vessels allowed in the drainage ditches. Recreational Fishing: Shrimp may be taken by the use of cast nets only. During the inside open shrimp season, 25 pounds per boat per day (heads on) maximum shall be allowed. Size count to conform with open season requirements. During the inside closed season, 10 pounds per boat per day (heads on) may be taken for bait. Oyster harvesting is prohibited. Fish may be taken only by rod and reel or hand lines for recreational purposes only. Crabs may be taken only through the use of hand lines or nets; however, none are to remain set overnight. Twelve dozen crabs maximum are allowed per boat or vehicle per day. Crawfish may be harvested in unrestricted portions of the WMA and shall be limited to 100 pounds per boat or group. Fishing gear used to catch crawfish shall not remain set overnight. The harvest of all fish, shrimp, crabs and crawfish are for recreational purposes only and any commercial use is prohibited. All boats powered by engines having horsepower ratings above 25 h.p. are not allowed in the Grand Bayou, Montegut and Pointe-aux-Chenes water management units. Public is permitted to travel anytime through the WMA for access purposes only, in the waterways known as Grand Bayou, Humble Canal, Little Bayou Blue and Grand Bayou Blue unless authorized by the LDWF. All other motorized vehicles, horses and mules are prohibited unless authorized by the LDWF. Limited access area - no internal combustion engines allowed from September through January. See WMA map for specific locations.

ii. Pomme de Terre. Commercial Fishing: permitted Monday through Friday, EXCEPT closed during duck season. Commercial fishing permits available from area supervisor, Opelousas Region Office or Spring Bayou

headquarters. Sport Fishing: Same as outside EXCEPT allowed only after 2 p.m. only during waterfowl season. Crawfish: March 15 - July 31, recreational only, 100 lbs. per boat or group daily.

jj. Red River. Recreational crawfishing: Yakey Farms only March 15-July 31. 100 pounds per vehicle or group per day. No traps or nets left overnight. No motorized watercraft allowed. Commercial crawfishing now allowed.

kk. Russell Sage. Transporting trash or garbage on WMA roads is prohibited. All nighttime activities prohibited except as otherwise provided. Internal combustion engines and craft limited to 10 h.p. rating or less in the Greentree Reservoirs. NOTE: All season dates on Chauvin Tract (U.S. 165 North) same as outside, EXCEPT still hunt only and EXCEPT deer hunting restricted to archery only. All vehicles including ATVs prohibited.

ll. Sabine.

mm. Sabine Island. Sabine Island boundaries are Sabine River on the west, Cut-Off Bayou on the north, and Old River and Big Bayou on the south and east.

nn. Salvador/Timken. Hunting until 12 noon only for all game. All nighttime activities prohibited, including frogging. Recreational Fishing: Shrimp may be taken by the use of cast nets only. During the inside open shrimp season, 25 pounds per boat per day (heads on) maximum shall be permitted. Size count to conform with open season requirements. During the inside closed season, 10 pounds per boat per day (heads on) maximum may be taken for bait. Fish may be taken only by rod and reel or hand lines for recreational purposes only. Crabs may be taken only through the use of hand lines or nets; however, none of the lines are to remain set overnight. Twelve dozen crabs maximum are allowed per boat or vehicle per day. Crawfish may be harvested in unrestricted portions of the WMA and shall be limited to 100 pounds per boat or group. Fishing gear used to catch crawfish shall not remain set overnight. The harvest of all fish, shrimp, crabs and crawfish are for recreational purposes only and any commercial use is prohibited. Boats powered by internal combustion engines having horsepower ratings above 25 h.p. are permitted only in oil company access canals, Louisiana Cypress Canal, the Netherlands Pond including the West Canal, Lakes - "Baie Des Chactas" and "Baie du Cabanage" and the Rathborne Access ditch. Use of mudboats

powered by internal combustion engines with four cylinders or less is permitted in interior ditches from first Saturday in September through January and may be further permitted. Pulling boats over levees, dams or water control structures or any other activities which cause detriment to the integrity of levees, dams and water control structures is prohibited. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles prohibited on this area. Limited access area - no internal combustion engines allowed from September through January. See WMA map for specific locations.

oo. Sandy Hollow. Bird Dog Training: Consult regulation pamphlet. Wild birds only (use of pen-raised birds prohibited). Bird Dog Field Trials: Permit required from Baton Rouge Region Office. Horseback Riding: Self-Clearing Permit required. Organized trail rides prohibited. Riding allowed only on designated roads and trails depicted on WMA map. Horses and mules are specifically prohibited during turkey and gun season for deer EXCEPT as allowed for bird dog field trials. No horses and mules on green planted areas. Horse-drawn conveyances are prohibited.

pp. Sherburne. Crawfishing: Recreational crawfishing only on the South Farm Complexes. Crawfish harvest limited to 100 pounds per vehicle or boat per day. No traps or nets left overnight. No motorized watercraft allowed on farm complex. Commercial crawfishing not allowed. Retriever training allowed on selected portions of the WMA. Contact the Region office for specific details. Vehicular traffic prohibited on Atchafalaya River levee within Sherburne WMA boundaries. Rifle and Pistol Range open daily. Skeet ranges open by appointment only, contact Hunter Education Office. No trespassing in restricted area behind ranges. Note: Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land holdings adjacent to the Sherburne WMA will have the same rules and regulations as Sherburne WMA. No hunting or trapping in restricted area.

qq. Sicily Island Hills.

rr. Soda Lake. No motorized vehicles allowed. Bicycles allowed. All trapping and hunting prohibited EXCEPT archery hunting for deer and falconry.

ss. Spring Bayou. Commercial Fishing: permitted Monday through Friday EXCEPT slat traps and hoop nets permitted any day and except gill or trammel nets or the take or possession of grass carp are prohibited. Permits available from

area supervisor or Opelousas Region Office. Closed until after 2 p.m. during waterfowl season. Sport Fishing: Same as outside EXCEPT allowed only after 2 p.m. during waterfowl season. Crawfish: recreational only. No hunting allowed in headquarters area. Only overnight campers allowed in the improved Boggy Bayou Camping area. Rules and regulations posted at camp site. A fee is assessed for use of this campsite. Water skiing allowed only in Old River and Grand Lac.

tt. Tangipahoa Parish School Board. No horseback riding during gun season for deer or turkey. ATVs are not allowed.

uu. Thistlethwaite. All motorized vehicles restricted to improved roads only. All users must enter and leave through main gate only.

vv. Three Rivers.

ww. Tunica Hills. All vehicles restricted to Parish roads. Access to restricted areas is unauthorized. Refer to WMA map. Camping limited to tents only.

xx. Union. All nighttime activities prohibited except as otherwise provided.

yy. West Bay.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115 and R.S. 56:116.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:1279 (July 1999), amended LR 26:1494 (July 2000), LR 27:1049 (July 2001), LR 28:1603 (July 2002), LR 29:1124 (July 2003), repromulgated LR 29:1522 (August 2003), amended LR 30:1495 (July 2004), LR 31:1611 (July 2005), LR 32:1251 (July 2006), LR 33:1382 (July 2007), LR 34:1429 (July 2008), LR 35:1264 (July 2009), LR 36:1566 (July 2010), LR 37: .

Public hearings will be held at the following locations: March 9 beginning at 6:00 p.m., Alexandria Convention Hall, 915 Third Street, Alexandria; March 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the LDWF Office, 9961 Highway 80, Minden; March 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m., Yambilee Festival Building, 1939 W. Landry, Opelousas; March 16 beginning at 6:00 p.m., Ponchatoula High School Cafeteria, 19452 Highway 22, Ponchatoula; March 17 beginning at 6:00 p.m., Bastrop Visitor Center, 124 North

Washington Street, Bastrop; and March 22 beginning at 6:30 p.m., LSU Ag Center (next to Burton Coliseum), 7101 Gulf Highway, Lake Charles. Also comments will be accepted at regularly scheduled Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Meetings from March through May. Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m., Thursday, May 5, 2011 to Mr. Randy Myers, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA, 70898-9000.

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.

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).

Stephen W. Sagrera
Chairman