

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

MAY 1, 2003

TERRY D. DENMON
CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting
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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
MAY 1, 2003

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Chairman Terry Denmon presiding.

Bill Busbice
Lee Felterman
Tom Kelly
Henry Mouton
Wayne Sagrera
Jerry Stone

Secretary James H. Jenkins, Jr. was also present.

Chairman Denmon called for a motion for approval of the **April 3, 2003 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Busbice and seconded by Commissioner Felterman. The motion passed with no opposition.

Under **Commission Special Announcements**, Chairman Denmon requested moving the June meeting date from June 5 since he would be out-of-state and other members would not be able to attend. The Commission decided to hold the June meeting on Friday, June 6, 2003.

The **Monthly Law Enforcement Report for April** was given by Major Keith LaCaze. The following numbers of citations were issued during April.

Region I - Minden - 86 citations and 10 warnings.

Region II - Monroe - 118 citations and 26 warnings.

Region III - Alexandria - 126 citations.

Region IV - Ferriday - 112 citations and 8 warnings.

Region V - Lake Charles - 161 citations and 11 warnings.

Region VI - Opelousas - 228 citations and 78 warnings.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 231 citations and 22 warnings.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 347 citations and 24 warnings.

Region IX - Schriever - 313 citations and 98 warnings.

Oyster Strike Force - 50 citations.

Seafood Investigation Unit - 11 citations.

SWEP - 18 citations.

Refuge Patrol - 30 citations and 6 warnings.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of April was 1,831. Also there were 283 warning citations issued statewide.

The aviation report for April 2003 showed enforcement pilots flew three airplanes a total of 61.9 hours for enforcement and 8.2 hours for other divisions.

Then Major LaCaze reported on a boating accident where a 14 year old girl was killed while being pulled behind a boat on a ski toy. He also stated there were 14 boating accidents during the month with 4 fatalities and the agents were putting a lot of emphasis on boating safety. Commissioner Busbice asked about the citation "obtain license by fraud" and how was it obtained? Major LaCaze explained how someone without a drivers license can provide information to a vendor and obtain a license. Then Commissioner Busbice asked how many agent positions are vacant? Major LaCaze stated there are about 17 vacancies throughout the State. Chairman Denmon thanked and commended the Department and the Enforcement Division for their assistance when Poverty Point Reservoir was opened.

Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands began with Mr. Henry Mouton stating the Governor launched this program last summer. Louisiana is looking to Congress to allocate about \$14 billion to restore the coast of Louisiana before it disappears. Several major companies have helped fund this program to make everyone realize the coast of Louisiana is important not just to Louisiana but to the whole country as well. A video on America's Wetlands was shown. Chairman Denmon thanked Commissioner Mouton and stated the video was very informative.

Mr. Marty Bourgeois handled the next item, a Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season. He began stating the Marine Fisheries Division has compiled the

latest hydrological and biological information on the Louisiana brown shrimp resource. The presentation included slides of the life cycle of a shrimp; annual Louisiana shrimp catch versus landings for years 1976-2002; Louisiana monthly shrimp landings (heads-off weights) for years 2002, 2001 and the mean average for 1990-2000; Louisiana 2002 shrimp landings for brown and white shrimp and sea bobs; annual Louisiana shrimp landings for brown and white shrimp; and the annual Louisiana shrimp gear license sales from 1976-2002. Then switching to hydrological conditions the following slides were shown: monthly southeast Louisiana rainfall for 2002 and 2003 compared with long term; monthly Mississippi River discharge for 2002 and 2003 versus long term mean; south Barataria Bay monthly water temperatures for 2003 versus long term; south Barataria Bay daily water temperatures from February through April versus long term; south Barataria Bay daily water temperatures for April 2003; north Barataria Bay monthly salinity for 2003 versus long term; April 2003 tidal range; April acreage greater than 10 ppt which for this year is 1.35 million acres; brown shrimp catch per effort in 6' trawls in Barataria Bay for April; brown shrimp mean size in 6' trawls in Barataria Bay for April; 2002 Louisiana brown shrimp catch by basin; brown shrimp catch per effort in 6' trawls by major bay systems; brown shrimp mean size in 6' trawls by bay systems; and a map of Louisiana's three shrimp management zones. The Department projects the percentage of shrimp for each zone that will be larger than 100 count per pound. In Zone 1, on May 12, 59 percent of the shrimp will be larger than 100 count per pound; on May 19 the percentage will be 82. On May 19 the percentage of shrimp larger than 100 count in Zone 2 will be 72; and on May 26, it will be 90 percent. Not until May 26 in Zone 3 will 53 percent of the shrimp reach 100 count or larger per pound. On a statewide basis, it would not be until May 19 when 73 percent of the count will be larger. The last slide shown was the predicted tidal range for May 2003 which Mr. Bourgeois stated was unusual this year since there will be three moon phases.

Commissioner Kelly asked if May 13 would be a good day for Zone 2 and the double rig line in Zone 1 to open? Mr. Bourgeois stated the first date the management criteria is met is May 13. Then Commissioner Kelly asked if May 26 would be a good time for the remainder of Zone 1 and all of Zone 3? Mr. Bourgeois stated the projections indicate the sizes in Zone 1 are ahead of Zone 2 but industry prefers opening for larger shrimp. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to open that area of Zone 1 to the double rig line and Zone 2 and the territorial waters on May 13 at 6 a.m. and to open the remainder of Zone 1 and Zone 3 at 6 a.m. on May 26. Commissioner Sagrera seconded the motion. Hearing no further

discussion from the Commission, the Chairman opened the meeting for public comments.

Mr. Mike Canaya, Lafitte, recommended opening the season on May 5 so the shrimp do not leave if a cold front or strong rainstorm passes through the area.

Mr. T-Roy Borne recommended opening the season as early as possible. Mr. Borne also noted shrimp will push out of the area if a northern front passes through.

Mr. Gene Adams, shrimper from Zone 2, stated the season was opened 5 days too late last year. He stated it was very important to have the earliest possible date of May 5 but no later than May 10.

Mr. Randy Nunez, shrimper from Zone 2, asked for more days in May to work by opening as early as possible on May 5.

Mr. Timmy Danos, shrimper from Zone 2, asked for May 5 opening date.

Mr. John Brown stated the season should open as early as possible. He felt the opening on May 13 would be too late and this would eventually hurt the white shrimp season.

Mr. Wayne Cheramie, shrimper in Zone 2, asked what size would the shrimp be on May 5? Mr. Bourgeois stated the projections on May 5 for Zone 2 would only be 24 percent. Commissioner Sagrera asked how does that projection compare with May 13? Mr. Bourgeois stated May 13 is the first date the management criteria is met.

Mr. Pete Gericca, representing the Lake Pontchartrain Fisherman's Association and the Seafood Management Council, stated they met earlier in the week and unanimously voted to request the season open in Zone 1 on May 26 or later.

Mr. Ted Loupe, commercial fisherman in Zones 1 and 2, stated the prices for shrimp are already beginning to drop. He noted shrimp size would not cross the line until May 15 or 19. On the east side of the Mississippi River, Mr. Loupe suggested opening the season on May 26.

Mr. Bill Dekemel, East Bank Commercial Fisherman's Association primarily consisting of members east of the River, stated they agreed with the motion to open a portion of Zone 1 on May 26. He felt the shrimp in Zone 1 have been affected by the late cool

weather and west winds. There has been no recruitment over the last few weeks but they should show up within the next week.

Commissioner Stone asked if there were any comments from the people that buy the shrimp to find out what they are going to pay?

Mr. Randy Nunez stated dock prices right then were 60 cents for 80-100 count shrimp and that price should drop. Even during the Lent season, which is the best times for seafood, the prices were not high and it was expected not to be a great price year.

Mr. Barry Flash asked that Zone 1 open on May 26 or later.

Mr. Gene Adams stated when the biologists are talking data, the situation could go either way. He added he does not worry about the price, whatever is going to happen will happen.

Mr. Scott St. Pierre stated he was from Zone 2 and even if they were catching 40-50 count, they still would not receive much for them. One of the biggest problems for the shrimper is the imports. It is expected there will be a 30 percent increase in imports this year. Mr. St. Pierre recommended opening the season on May 12 or 13.

Mr. Steve Tramonte, a shrimper from the Pontchartrain Basin, asked that the season open on May 26 if not later.

Chairman Denmon asked Mr. Bourgeois to address any comments made. Mr. Bourgeois stated there was a wide range of opinions on when to open the season. The Department always maintains its recommendations based upon criteria the Commission adopted. Then he stated the Department recommends opening Zone 1 on larger shrimp since they stay within that system for extended periods and that date would be May 26. But in that portion of Zone 1 consisting of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds, the Department would recommend opening that area on May 13. For Zone 3, it was recommended that area open on May 26 in conjunction with a portion of Zone 1. In Zone 2, any date prior to May 13 would not satisfy the management criteria, but the tides would be high after the full moon on May 16 and that would move the larger shrimp into offshore waters. The Department recommended opening Zone 2 on May 13 as well as the offshore waters between the Atchafalaya River and the western shore of Vermilion Bay. Chairman Denmon then asked if there was any more discussion on the motion. Hearing none, the motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
2003 Spring Shrimp Season Opening
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
May 1, 2003

WHEREAS, the traditional management criteria used by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in recommending the opening dates for the spring shrimp season in inside waters are based on the population of brown shrimp in each shrimp management zone reaching such a size that 50% or more of the brown shrimp are 100 count per pound or larger, and

WHEREAS, current biological data project that 50% of the 2003 brown shrimp crop in inside waters will meet the 100 count per pound management criteria in Shrimp Management Zone 1 by May 10, 2003, in Shrimp Management Zone 2 by May 13, 2003 and in Shrimp Management Zone 3 by May 26, 2003, and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2003 the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission had closed to shrimping that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495, from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to the eastern shore of Freshwater Bayou.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby opens the spring shrimp season in inside waters in Shrimp Management Zone 1 at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003, except the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which shall open at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003, in Zone 2 and that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495 from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to the eastern shore of Freshwater Bayou at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003 and in Zone 3 at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close any portion of Louisiana's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicate the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Terry D. Denmon, Chairman
La. Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
La. Dept. of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all or part of inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season in Louisiana state waters to open as follows:

Shrimp Management Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the Mississippi State line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, to open at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003, except the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which shall open at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003, and

Shrimp Management Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, as well as that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495 from the Atchafalaya River Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to Freshwater Bayou, all to open at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003, and

Shrimp Management Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass

at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m.
May 26, 2003.

The Commission also hereby grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close any portion of the State's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

Terry D. Denmon
Chairman

A Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels was presented by Lt. Col. Charlie Clark, Boating Law Administrator. In the Revised Statutes, Louisiana has the right to regulate watercraft and that authority belongs to the Commission. The U.S. Coast Guard has developed rules for operation of vessels but these regulations could not be enforced on sole state waters. The proposed Notice of Intent tracks parallel to the U.S. Coast Guard's Rules of the Road. In order to prove criminal intent on a boating accident, these rules are needed and they can be applied in criminal statute. Lt. Col. Clark then asked the Commission to approve the Notice of Intent so it can be sent out for public comments. Commissioner Mouton asked that the regulations be listed on the Department's website since he feels 90 percent of the boaters do not know the true rules of the road. Lt. Col. Clark stated they still have a long way to go in adopting the regulations that meet today's boats. Commissioner Kelly suggested having an illustration page with the regulations that shows the different signals used by boats. Lt. Col. Clark stated they looked at that in the beginning, but felt they did not want to confuse the issue. The proposed regulations were developed mainly for the bass fishermen and saltwater recreational anglers. When dealing with Coast Guard regulations while shrimping, you become a commercial boat and all Rules of the Road applies. Commissioner Busbice asked why can't the Department send a pamphlet containing the rules with boat registration decals? Lt. Col. Clark stated the cost could be a problem but the Department may try a cheaper version if the Wallop-Breaux funds increase. With no further discussion, Chairman Denmon asked the pleasure of the Commission. Commissioner Busbice made a motion to accept the Notice of Intent. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Lt. Col. Clark stated there is a mandatory education bill going through the Legislature right now. Chairman Denmon asked that the course would be required before a person could obtain what? Lt. Col. Clark stated it would be needed before a person could operate a boat with a 10 hp motor or above on his own.

(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 intent to enact regulations governing the Rules of the Road for boating safety in the State of Louisiana (LAC 76:XI.301).

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XI. Boating

Chapter 3. Boating Safety

§301. Rules of the Road for Vessels

A. The following regulations shall dictate the operation of vessels upon the waters of the state and shall set forth a standard of operation. In construing and complying with these Rules, due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the vessels involved, which may make a departure from the Rules necessary to avoid immediate danger.

B. Any violation of the Rules of the Road as referred to in this section shall be prima-facie evidence of careless or reckless operation.

C. Boating accidents caused by deviation from the Rules of the Road shall be documented as such in accident reports.

D. The Rules of the Road for vessels upon the waters in the state shall be as follows:

1. Vessels passing head-on shall each keep to their respective right.

2. A vessel overtaking another vessel may do so on either side, but must grant the right-of-way to the vessel being overtaken.

3. When vessels are passing at right angles, the vessel on the left will yield right-of-way to vessel on the right.

4. Motorboats shall yield right-of-way to non-motor powered boats except as follows:

a. When being overtaken by non-powered vessels.

b. For deep draft vessels that have to remain in narrow channels.

c. When vessel is towing another vessel.

5. Motorboats must maintain a direct course when passing sailboats.

6. A vessel approaching a landing dock or pier shall yield the right-of-way to any departing vessel.

7. A vessel departing shoreline or tributary shall yield right-of-way to through traffic and vessels approaching shoreline or tributary.

8. Vessels will not abruptly change course without first determining that it can be safely done without risk of collision with another vessel.

9. If an operator fails to fully comprehend the course of an approaching vessel he must slow down immediately to a speed barely sufficient for steerageway until the other vessel has passed.

10. Vessels yielding right-of-way shall reduce speed, stop, reverse, or alter course to avoid collision. Vessel with right-of-way shall hold course and speed. If there is danger of collision, all vessels will slow down, stop, or reverse until danger is averted.

11. Vessels will issue warning signals in fog or weather conditions that restrict visibility.

12. No mechanically propelled vessel shall be operated so as to traverse a course around any other vessel underway or any person swimming.

13. In a narrow channel, vessels will keep to the right of mid-channel.

14. Vessels approaching or passing another vessel shall be operated in such manner and at such a rate of speed as will not create a hazardous wash or wake.

15. No vessel shall obstruct or interfere with take-off, landing, or taxiing of aircraft.

16. All vessels shall be operated at reasonable speeds for given conditions and situations and must be under the complete control of the operator at all times.

17. No person shall, under any circumstances, operate a vessel in excess of an established speed or wake zone.

18. No vessel or person shall obstruct or block a navigation channel, entrance to channel, mooring slip, landing dock, launching ramp, pier or tributary.

19. Vessels shall keep at least 100 feet clearance of displayed diver's flag.

20. Operator shall maintain a proper lookout.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 34:851.27A

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 29: .

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

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Lt. Colonel Charlie Clark, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Law Enforcement Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, July 3, 2003.

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).

Terry D. Denmon

Chairman

Mr. John Sturgis presented the Commission with a **Fishing Week Resolution**. He announced that the week of June 2-8, 2003 has been declared Fishing Week in Louisiana. An estimated 970,000 plus residents spend more than \$703 million annually on fishing. Due to this, June 7 and 8 will be free fishing days. This means that residents and non-residents may fish without purchasing any recreational fishing licenses. Mr. Sturgis then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Felterman made a motion to adopt the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Sagrera. The motion passed unanimously.

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

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS, sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS, the estimated 970,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of \$703 million annually, and

WHEREAS, Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS, Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 2-8, 2003 as

FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June 7 & 8, 2003 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Date: May 1, 2003

Terry D. Denmon
Chairman

Lee Felterman
Vice-Chairman

Henry Mouton

Bill Busbice

Wayne Sagrera

H. Jerry Stone

Tom Kelly

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

Chairman Denmon asked Mr. Tommy Prickett if the Department wanted to make a comment first on the next item, **Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations**. Mr. Prickett stated he has a recommended change to the hunting schedule that was presented in March. The Department has currently under free leases almost 300,000 acres of private land made available to the public in the form of WMAs. The lease on one of those WMAs has been cancelled. Plum Creek WMA in Morehouse Parish, approximately 25,500 acres, has been a WMA since 1935. As a result of legal action by an attorney and the Police Jury that challenged a state law that makes those lands available to the State at no cost to the landowner through taxation, Plum Creek has decided to remove that area from the Department's WMA system. Mr. Prickett felt this would be most unfortunate for the users in Morehouse Parish that depends on that place for outdoor recreation. He then asked the Commission to remove Plum Creek from the WMA hunting regulation schedule. Current landowners mentioned that Plum Creek would be leased to private hunting clubs in the future. Commissioner Stone asked that a motion to remove Plum Creek be made but to include a resolution to be sent to the Legislature asking they expedite a solution to the problem of local taxes on donated public hunting lands. Mr. Prickett stated the legal staff has drafted a bill that would cure that situation, but

has been told the bill has been pulled. Again Commissioner Stone asked if it was appropriate for the Commission to send a resolution to the Legislature? Mr. Don Puckett stated yes, the Commission could direct the Secretary to send a letter to the Legislature to put forth this type legislation. Chairman Denmon asked if it could be done this legislative session? Mr. Puckett stated if the bill Mr. Prickett spoke of was still alive, it could go forward. The last date for filing bills for this legislative session has already passed. The only way to go beyond that, would be to suspend the rules to allow a late introduction. Commissioner Stone made a motion for the Department to find a way to send a letter to the Senate and House stating the Commission is in opposition to taxation on previously donated lands for public use. Secretary Jenkins commented that Speaker DeWitt has a bill that pertains to donated land and added language to cover this situation may work. Chairman Denmon stated he was concerned with the precedent this may set with all of the lands forestry companies own. He added that the resolution by Commissioner Stone was a first step and that it should be monitored. Mr. Prickett stated he was glad the Commission instructed the Department to act and would take care of it. He added that the average tax for those lands is \$2 per acre and it could be leased to private clubs for much more money than that. Commissioner Stone asked if the press has written about this situation? Mr. Prickett answered it has gotten some press in Morehouse Parish and a News Release to the general outdoor press would go out from the Department. Plum Creek has committed to continue with a free lease on Union WMA. Commissioner Busbice seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Denmon then asked what was needed to remove Plum Creek WMA from the hunting schedule. Mr. Prickett suggested the Commission have a voice vote expressing its intent to remove that area. Commissioner Kelly made a motion expressing its intent to remove Plum Creek WMA from the hunting schedule. Commissioner Mouton seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Then the Chairman opened the meeting to other comments on hunting.

Mr. Phil Keller stated last year he recommended a handicap season for the Red River WMA or Maurepas WMA and has not heard anything on it for this year. Mr. Prickett stated there are a number of WMAs that have youth and handicapped hunts. Also there is a statewide handicapped deer hunt for either sex. This was a first request for such a hunt on either Red River or Maurepas, commented Mr. Prickett. He then suggested leaving the seasons as they are for this year and then look at the request next year. The hunts that are scheduled are on those areas staff felt would have the most access and the highest use from the handicapped hunters.

Mr. Glen Maxwell stated a petition with 115 names on it was presented at the last meeting to increase the deer dog hunting days in the Evangeline Unit of Kisatchie National Forest. Since then, Mr. Maxwell has obtained more information and gave that to the Commission. He then asked if it was true that the deer population in the Evangeline Unit of Kisatchie was too low to extend the season? Mr. Dave Moreland stated the browse surveys do not show the number of deers that are in Winn or Catahoula and that is in part due to the longleaf pine habitat. Mr. Maxwell stated in February 1990, a News Release was issued that noted the deer days in that area would be reduced from 56 days to 21 days. He disagreed with what Mr. Moreland stated, adding that 12 years later the deer population has quadrupled. Mr. Maxwell felt the solution to reduce the number of days has not worked and the hunters want their season back. This area of Kisatchie is bordered by private hunting clubs and DMAP clubs where they follow the Area 2 deer dates. Mr. Prickett stated Kisatchie is just like all of the WMAs, they all have had increased public pressure and the more people in the woods, the more deer that could be harvested. Private lands have less hunting pressure than public lands. As lands in the central part of the State were leased, this increased pressure on the National Forest lands. There was a deer study conducted on Kisatchie and it was obvious the deer herd was much lower than all surrounding private lands and so it was recommended to reduce the hunting pressure. The deer herd has responded over the last 10 years and is at the appropriate level but adding hunting pressure would reduce the deer herd to what it was in 1990. Mr. Maxwell stated he disagreed with Mr. Prickett and noted 90 percent of still hunters hunt in private hunting clubs. Underharvest is the problem with that particular area of Kisatchie and over the last 5 years, they have seen a decrease in the size of deer harvested because there are too many deer. Mr. Maxwell urged the Commission to honor the petition. He ended by stated Kisatchie is a National Forest and should not be treated as a wildlife management area.

Mr. Jed Junker from Metairie, requested that afternoon hunting on Pass-a-Loutre WMA be allowed. This area is similar to Atchafalaya Delta in that both sit on Deltas. Morning hunting can be affected by the tidal range.

Mr. Billwood Smith stated he has been hunting at the mouth of the River since 1975 and has the same concerns with tides and the logistical problems of getting to Pass-a-Loutre. In the late 1960's and early 1970's, hunting was not allowed in the afternoons east of the River and this released pressure off of the birds. If the regulation was put into place and wording added that this was for a trial period, Mr. Smith stated he would accept it. He then proposed that the closure be limited to the area west of the River.

Mr. Mike McIntyre from New Orleans stated he agreed with some of the statements about Pass-a-Loutre from the 2 previous speakers. He agreed that hunting pressure on the WMA has increased very dramatically in the last 10 years. He suggested the Commission consider eliminating go-devil type boats on the WMA since they make access easier than other boats. The proposed 2 p.m. closure will not eliminate pressure when hunters in the go-devils continue boating on the area.

Mr. Bren Haase stated he agreed with Mr. McIntyre. He then added that he has not seen where the Department has demonstrated there really is a problem on the areas and why closing hunting at 2 p.m. is the correct solution. He then recommended that Pass-a-Loutre and Biloxi WMAs be removed from the proposal.

Mr. Tommy Daigle expressed his concern on extending Area 6 archery season into the month of February. After a study by Mr. Moreland was done, it was found that the rut in the area occurs very, very late.

Mr. Bill Rochester stated he wanted to address the duck hunting situation in Pass-a-Loutre. He remarked that this WMA is one of the toughest duck hunting areas in the United States. He then asked if there has been pressure from the Federal Government or outside agencies such as private waterfowling groups? Mr. Rochester felt there has been a continuing process of discouraging sportsmen from hunting. Mr. Prickett stated there has been no pressure from any group and the recommendation was made with no ulterior motives. Duck hunting has changed dramatically and waterfowl managers have realized that ducks are very sensitive to hunting pressure and they will leave an area. Mr. Prickett then noted they are seeing a change in the way ducks behave. The recommendation was not intended to lighten hunting pressure, but was to improve the quality of the hunting. He then thanked the people who made suggestions and said they would be looked into. Mr. Rochester stated he appreciated Mr. Prickett's comments.

Mr. Clark Van Sickle began noting he spoke last month about Pass-a-Loutre WMA. He agreed there has been an increase in hunting pressure. Mr. Van Sickle then spoke about hunting pressure and what it meant. During the weeks of December and into January, there are few hunters on Pass-a-Loutre. On the weekends, you do not have a problem finding a place to hunt where you are not close to anyone. He suggested closing the area at 2 p.m. on each opening weekend and leave it open for all day hunting the rest of the season.

Mr. Brad Thibodaux commented the Department is always looking for additional monies and suggested making those over 60 years of age pay the same fee for a hunting license like those who are younger. When the baby boomers hit 60 years of age in the next 8-10 years, this will really reduce the license fees. He suggested hunters over 65 years of age could pay a reduced fee for their licenses. The next issue related to the deer hunting season. At the end of January during the muzzleloader season, Mr. Thibodaux observed that the deer were still rutting. He applauded the Commission's decision to establish a 6 point rule in Area 6. He then asked the Commission to extend the season to the middle of February to cover the ruts.

Commissioner Busbice asked Mr. Prickett if Mr. Dave Moreland was going to do another browse survey on Kisatchie? Mr. Prickett stated a request was made to do additional surveys to confirm the deer status on the National Forest lands. Department staff has met with the National Forest staff and an outline to gather additional information has been developed. Commissioner Busbice again asked that a browse survey be conducted.

Commissioner Felterman stated there has been a lot of comments on backing up the archery season in Area 6. He then asked if there have been any comments to leave the season as is or were they all to move it back? Mr. Prickett stated almost all of the comments received were to move that season structure later. Last year it was recommended to back up the entire season structure in Area 6, opening the archery season November 1. A tactical error was made by not replacing the lost days in November on the back end of the season and running it to the end of February. This was done to protect the small game hunters but those hunters did not come forward to make their feelings known. After the initial meeting last year, a recommendation was made to move the archery season on November 1 and extend the season into February. The hunters in the southern end of Area 6 came to the meetings and commented that change would affect them since their deer rut in November. A study by Mr. Moreland determined the rut in the southern end of Area 6 is in mid-December. When setting seasons, the Department uses priorities such as opening for holidays, making sure the centerfire rifle season overlaps the best part of the rut, and then including archery and muzzleloader seasons. Mr. Prickett felt there was room for compromise and noted from a biological standpoint, there is no problem with moving the season structure later. Commissioner Felterman asked if public comments could still be made at the next meeting? Mr. Don Puckett stated comments on the season dates could be accepted up until the time the rule is ratified, but on the permanent rule, comments should be accepted up until the June meeting. Commissioner Stone asked, if the season in Area 6 was

moved, this would upset the people in the southern end versus leaving it alone and upsetting the people in the northern end? Mr. Prickett answered yes and felt compromising the season would not alter the harvest in either area. Commissioner Stone stated last year there was a lot of comments received not in favor of moving the season backwards and this year the comments are wanting the season moved backwards. Mr. Prickett stated that was because the season was not moved this year.

Mr. Roland Dugas voiced his being in favor of extending the archery season into mid-February. He then asked when would the decision be made on this issue? Chairman Denmon stated the Area 6 change could be made up until the July meeting when the rule is ratified. Mr. Dugas asked the Commission to alter the proposed rule now so the public could be made aware of the change.

Mr. Kendall Williams, with the Bayou State Bowhunters, stated they were favor of backing the season up last year and still are in favor.

Mr. Brad Thibodaux stated last year the reason for the objections was due to the fact that hunting days were being lost. If you would move the archery season this year to run from October 15 to February 15, there would be no lost days. Then he asked if there was any biological reason not to extend the rabbit season to March 15? Mr. Prickett stated that probably would not be a good idea since the number of young rabbits accelerate sharply in the spring. Chairman Denmon asked for an answer to that question before the next meeting.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Denmon asked if the Commission wanted to take any action on the proposed rules? No motions were made and that concluded that agenda item.

Next, the agenda item, **Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease** was presented by Mr. Larry Savage. Over the last year, several presentations have been made on the serious threat Chronic Wasting Disease could have in Louisiana. Now it has been found in 12 states and 2 Canadian Provinces. There is very strong evidence that the movement of captive deer has accelerated the movement of the disease across the States. Mr. Savage reminded the Commission they passed an import ban on bringing deer and elk into the State, also imposed restrictions on the intrastate movement, passed rules on the disposal of carcasses and testing, and placed a moratorium on new game breeder pens. Biologists have been trained on this disease as well as developed educational programs, pamphlets, websites, conducted a testing statewide for chronic wasting disease and developed a surveillance and contingency plan.

A copy of the Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance and Contingency Plan was provided to the Commission. This multi-year Plan was developed by Department staff and has been reviewed by the Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Unit and will be used as the State's guidelines for surveillance and management.

Commissioner Busbice stated this has become a concern to the hunting public. He asked if there was a test to determine if an animal has the disease? Mr. Savage stated the test can only be performed on dead animals, there is not a practical live animal test. Commissioner Busbice asked if anyone has worked on developing a medicine? Mr. Savage answered no, there are too many unknowns. Commissioner Busbice then asked if there was a lead person on this disease? Mr. Savage stated Dr. Beth Williams and people from Colorado have been working on this disease for 30 years. To answer Commissioner Busbice's question on any new states with the outbreak, Mr. Savage stated the states adjacent to Wisconsin, Utah, Minnesota and Illinois, have the disease. Some good news, the Southeast Disease Study Group has tested 8,000 samples from 12 southeast states and there were no reports of the disease. Lastly, Commissioner Busbice asked if it was conceivable that with more deer on the range, could they become less healthy due to the lack of nutrition? Mr. Savage stated that the most common problem in deer herds is deficient nutrition and they become more susceptible to parasites. The closer the contact in a herd, the easier it is to transmit the disease to other animals. The other bit of information Mr. Savage provided was results of the 2002 testing. The goal was to test 1,000 animals primarily from hunter harvested deer. This goal was exceeded and a total of 1,258 were tested. Of that total, 1,125 did not show signs of having chronic wasting disease. Results of the Department of Agriculture's testing of 105 animals also showed no signs of the disease. Participation from DMAP hunters, the National Forest land hunters, WMA hunters readily donated their deer heads when asked. This is just the beginning of the surveillance program, concluded Mr. Savage. Mr. Prickett commended Mr. Savage noting he has gone above and beyond the call of duty with this program. He also added Mr. Savage was instrumental in developing the Chronic Wasting Disease action plan and coordinating this plan with the biologists in the field.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **September 2003 Meeting** on Thursday, September 4, 2003 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Denmon then asked for **Public Comments**. Mr. Darrel Tassin stated he is a student at LSU and asked Mr. Savage if there are any studies that showed chronic wasting disease was transmitted

to humans and are there any studies that shows this disease has not already occurred. Mr. Savage stated the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control has done extensive testing on the prion diseases and found no link between eating deer or elk meat and the transmission to humans. He noted most of the publications say it is between 3 to 5 years before symptoms begin to appear. The World Health Organization recommends not eating deer meat from a sick animal or one that has tested positive for chronic wasting disease.

Mr. Kendall Williams asked when would be the last time public comments would be taken on the archery season? Chairman Denmon stated those dates could be changed at the June and July meetings.

There being no further business, Commissioner Felterman made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Kelly.



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

JHJ:sch

5/16/2003

Marianne,

Please review.

Thanks,

Susan Hawkins

MB 5/20/03

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, May 1, 2003

presiding.

Tom Kelly
Henry Mouton
Wayne Sagerera
Jerry Stone

Secretary James H. Jenkins, Jr. was also present.

Chairman Denmon called for a motion for approval of the **April 3, 2003 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Busbice and seconded by Commissioner Felterman. The motion passed with no opposition.

Under **Commission Special Announcements**, Chairman Denmon requested moving the June meeting date from June 5 since he would be out-of-state and other members would not be able to attend. The Commission decided to hold the June meeting on Friday, June 6, 2003.

The **Monthly Law Enforcement Report for April** was given by Major Keith LaCaze. The following numbers of citations were issued during April.

Region I - Minden - 86 citations and 10 warnings.

Region II - Monroe - 118 citations and 26 warnings.

Region III - Alexandria - 126 citations.

Region IV - Ferriday - 112 citations and 8 warnings.

Region V - Lake Charles - 161 citations and 11 warnings.

Region VI - Opelousas - 228 citations and 78 warnings.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 231 citations and 22 warnings.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 347 citations and 24 warnings.

Region IX - Schriever - 313 citations and 98 warnings.

Oyster Strike Force - 50 citations.

Seafood Investigation Unit - 11 citations.

SWEP - 18 citations.

Refuge Patrol - 30 citations and 6 warnings.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of April was 1,831. Also there were 283 warning citations issued statewide.

The aviation report for April 2003 showed enforcement pilots flew three airplanes a total of 61.9 hours for enforcement and 8.2 hours for other divisions.

Then Major LaCaze reported on a boating accident where a 14 year old girl was killed while being pulled behind a boat on a ski toy. He also stated there were 14 boating accidents during the month with 4 fatalities and the agents were putting a lot of emphasis on boating safety. Commissioner Busbice asked about the citation "obtain license by fraud" and how was it obtained? Major LaCaze explained how someone without a drivers license can provide information to a vendor and obtain a license. Then Commissioner Busbice asked how many agent positions are vacant? Major LaCaze stated there are about 17 vacancies throughout the State. Chairman Denmon thanked and commended the Department and the Enforcement Division for their assistance when Poverty Point Reservoir was opened.

Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands began with Mr. Henry Mouton stating the Governor launched this program last summer. Louisiana is looking to Congress to allocate about \$14 billion to restore the coast of Louisiana before it disappears. Several major companies have helped fund this program to make everyone realize the coast of Louisiana is important not just to Louisiana but to the whole country as well. A video on America's Wetlands was shown. Chairman Denmon thanked Commissioner Mouton and stated the video was very informative.

Mr. Marty Bourgeois handled the next item, a **Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season**. He began stating the Marine Fisheries Division has compiled the

latest hydrological and biological information on the Louisiana brown shrimp resource. The presentation included slides of the life cycle of a shrimp; annual Louisiana shrimp catch versus landings for years 1976-2002; Louisiana monthly shrimp landings (heads-off weights) for years 2002, 2001 and the mean average for 1990-2000; Louisiana 2002 shrimp landings for brown and white shrimp and sea bobs; annual Louisiana shrimp landings for brown and white shrimp; and the annual Louisiana shrimp gear license sales from 1976-2002. Then switching to hydrological conditions the following slides were shown: monthly southeast Louisiana rainfall for 2002 and 2003 compared with long term; monthly Mississippi River discharge for 2002 and 2003 versus long term mean; south Barataria Bay monthly water temperatures for 2003 versus long term; south Barataria Bay daily water temperatures from February through April versus long term; south Barataria Bay daily water temperatures for April 2003; north Barataria Bay monthly salinity for 2003 versus long term; April 2003 tidal range; April acreage greater than 10 ppt which for this year is 1.35 million acres; brown shrimp catch per effort in 6' trawls in Barataria Bay for April; brown shrimp mean size in 6' trawls in Barataria Bay for April; 2002 Louisiana brown shrimp catch by basin; brown shrimp catch per effort in 6' trawls by major bay systems; brown shrimp mean size in 6' trawls by bay systems; and a map of Louisiana's three shrimp management zones. The Department projects the percentage of shrimp for each zone that will be larger than 100 count per pound. In Zone 1, on May 12, 59 percent of the shrimp will be larger than 100 count per pound; on May 19 the percentage will be 82. On May 19 the percentage of shrimp larger than 100 count in Zone 2 will be 72; and on May 26, it will be 90 percent. Not until May 26 in Zone 3 will 53 percent of the shrimp reach 100 count or larger per pound. On a statewide basis, it would not be until May 19 when 73 percent of the count will be larger. The last slide shown was the predicted tidal range for May 2003 which Mr. Bourgeois stated was unusual this year since there will be three moon phases.

Commissioner Kelly asked if May 13 would be a good day for Zone 2 and the double rig line in Zone 1 to open? Mr. Bourgeois stated the first date the management criteria is met is May 13. Then Commissioner Kelly asked if May 26 would be a good time for the remainder of Zone 1 and all of Zone 3? Mr. Bourgeois stated the projections indicate the sizes in Zone 1 are ahead of Zone 2 but industry prefers opening for larger shrimp. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to open that area of Zone 1 to the double rig line and Zone 2 and the territorial waters on May 13 at 6 a.m. and to open the remainder of Zone 1 and Zone 3 at 6 a.m. on May 26. Commissioner Sagrera seconded the motion. Hearing no further

discussion from the Commission, the Chairman opened the meeting for public comments.

Mr. Mike Canaya, Lafitte, recommended opening the season on May 5 so the shrimp do not leave if a cold front or strong rainstorm passes through the area.

Mr. T-Roy Borne recommended opening the season as early as possible. Mr. Borne also noted shrimp will push out of the area if a northern front passes through.

Mr. Gene Adams, shrimper from Zone 2, stated the season was opened 5 days too late last year. He stated it was very important to have the earliest possible date of May 5 but no later than May 10.

Mr. Randy Nunez, shrimper from Zone 2, asked for more days in May to work by opening as early as possible on May 5.

Mr. Timmy Danos, shrimper from Zone 2, asked for May 5 opening date.

Mr. John Brown stated the season should open as early as possible. He felt the opening on May 13 would be too late and this would eventually hurt the white shrimp season.

Mr. Wayne Cheramie, shrimper in Zone 2, asked what size would the shrimp be on May 5? Mr. Bourgeois stated the projections on May 5 for Zone 2 would only be 24 percent. Commissioner Sagrera asked how does that projection compare with May 13? Mr. Bourgeois stated May 13 is the first date the management criteria is met.

Mr. Pete Gericca, representing the Lake Pontchartrain Fisherman's Association and the Seafood Management Council, stated they met earlier in the week and unanimously voted to request the season open in Zone 1 on May 26 or later.

Mr. Ted Loupe, commercial fisherman in Zones 1 and 2, stated the prices for shrimp are already beginning to drop. He noted shrimp size would not cross the line until May 15 or 19. On the east side of the Mississippi River, Mr. Loupe suggested opening the season on May 26.

Mr. Bill Dekemel, East Bank Commercial Fisherman's Association primarily consisting of members east of the River, stated they agreed with the motion to open a portion of Zone 1 on May 26. He felt the shrimp in Zone 1 have been affected by the late cool

weather and west winds. There has been no recruitment over the last few weeks but they should show up within the next week.

Commissioner Stone asked if there were any comments from the people that buy the shrimp to find out what they are going to pay?

Mr. Randy Nunez stated dock prices right then were 60 cents for 80-100 count shrimp and that price should drop. Even during the Lent season, which is the best times for seafood, the prices were not high and it was expected not to be a great price year.

Mr. Barry Flash asked that Zone 1 open on May 26 or later.

Mr. Gene Adams stated when the biologists are talking data, the situation could go either way. He added he does not worry about the price, whatever is going to happen will happen.

Mr. Scott St. Pierre stated he was from Zone 2 and even if they were catching 40-50 count, they still would not receive much for them. One of the biggest problems for the shrimper is the imports. It is expected there will be a 30 percent increase in imports this year. Mr. St. Pierre recommended opening the season on May 12 or 13.

Mr. Steve Tramonte, a shrimper from the Pontchartrain Basin, asked that the season open on May 26 if not later.

Chairman Denmon asked Mr. Bourgeois to address any comments made. Mr. Bourgeois stated there was a wide range of opinions on when to open the season. The Department always maintains its recommendations based upon criteria the Commission adopted. Then he stated the Department recommends opening Zone 1 on larger shrimp since they stay within that system for extended periods and that date would be May 26. But in that portion of Zone 1 consisting of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds, the Department would recommend opening that area on May 13. For Zone 3, it was recommended that area open on May 26 in conjunction with a portion of Zone 1. In Zone 2, any date prior to May 13 would not satisfy the management criteria, but the tides would be high after the full moon on May 16 and that would move the larger shrimp into offshore waters. The Department recommended opening Zone 2 on May 13 as well as the offshore waters between the Atchafalaya River and the western shore of Vermilion Bay. Chairman Denmon then asked if there was any more discussion on the motion. Hearing none, the motion passed with no opposition.

at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003.

The Commission also hereby grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close any portion of the State's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

Terry D. Denmon
Chairman

A Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels was presented by Lt. Col. Charlie Clark, Boating Law Administrator. In the Revised Statutes, Louisiana has the right to regulate watercraft and that authority belongs to the Commission. The U.S. Coast Guard has developed rules for operation of vessels but these regulations could not be enforced on sole state waters. The proposed Notice of Intent tracks parallel to the U.S. Coast Guard's Rules of the Road. In order to prove criminal intent on a boating accident, these rules are needed and they can be applied in criminal statute. Lt. Col. Clark then asked the Commission to approve the Notice of Intent so it can be sent out for public comments. Commissioner Mouton asked that the regulations be listed on the Department's website since he feels 90 percent of the boaters do not know the true rules of the road. Lt. Col. Clark stated they still have a long way to go in adopting the regulations that meet today's boats. Commissioner Kelly suggested having an illustration page with the regulations that shows the different signals used by boats. Lt. Col. Clark stated they looked at that in the beginning, but felt they did not want to confuse the issue. The proposed regulations were developed mainly for the bass fishermen and saltwater recreational anglers. When dealing with Coast Guard regulations while shrimping, you become a commercial boat and all Rules of the Road applies. Commissioner Busbice asked why can't the Department send a pamphlet containing the rules with boat registration decals? Lt. Col. Clark stated the cost could be a problem but the Department may try a cheaper version if the Wallop-Breaux funds increase. With no further discussion, Chairman Denmon asked the pleasure of the Commission. Commissioner Busbice made a motion to accept the Notice of Intent. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Lt. Col. Clark stated there is a mandatory education bill going through the Legislature right now. Chairman Denmon asked that the course would be required before a person could obtain what? Lt. Col. Clark stated it would be needed before a person could operate a boat with a 10 hp motor or above on his own.

Chairman

Mr. John Sturgis presented the Commission with a **Fishing Week Resolution**. He announced that the week of June 2-8, 2003 has been declared Fishing Week in Louisiana. An estimated 970,000 plus residents spend more than \$703 million annually on fishing. Due to this, June 7 and 8 will be free fishing days. This means that residents and non-residents may fish without purchasing any recreational fishing licenses. Mr. Sturgis then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Felterman made a motion to adopt the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Sagrera. The motion passed unanimously.

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

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS, sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS, the estimated 970,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of \$703 million annually, and

WHEREAS, Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS, Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 2-8, 2003 as

FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June 7 & 8, 2003 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Date: May 1, 2003

Terry D. Denmon
Chairman

Lee Felterman
Vice-Chairman

Henry Mouton

Bill Busbice

Wayne Sagrera

H. Jerry Stone

Tom Kelly

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

Chairman Denmon asked Mr. Tommy Prickett if the Department wanted to make a comment first on the next item, **Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations**. Mr. Prickett stated he has a recommended change to the hunting schedule that was presented in March. The Department has currently under free leases almost 300,000 acres of private land made available to the public in the form of WMAs. The lease on one of those WMAs has been cancelled. Plum Creek WMA in Morehouse Parish, approximately 25,500 acres, has been a WMA since 1935. As a result of legal action by an attorney and the Police Jury that challenged a state law that makes those lands available to the State at no cost to the landowner through taxation, Plum Creek has decided to remove that area from the Department's WMA system. Mr. Prickett felt this would be most unfortunate for the users in Morehouse Parish that depends on that place for outdoor recreation. He then asked the Commission to remove Plum Creek from the WMA hunting regulation schedule. Current landowners mentioned that Plum Creek would be leased to private hunting clubs in the future. Commissioner Stone asked that a motion to remove Plum Creek be made but to include a resolution to be sent to the Legislature asking they expedite a solution to the problem of local taxes on donated public hunting lands. Mr. Prickett stated the legal staff has drafted a bill that would cure that situation, but

has been told the bill has been pulled. Again Commissioner Stone asked if it was appropriate for the Commission to send a resolution to the Legislature? Mr. Don Puckett stated yes, the Commission could direct the Secretary to send a letter to the Legislature to put forth this type legislation. Chairman Denmon asked if it could be done this legislative session? Mr. Puckett stated if the bill Mr. Prickett spoke of was still alive, it could go forward. The last date for filing bills for this legislative session has already passed. The only way to go beyond that, would be to suspend the rules to allow a late introduction. Commissioner Stone made a motion for the Department to find a way to send a letter to the Senate and House stating the Commission is in opposition to taxation on previously donated lands for public use. Secretary Jenkins commented that Speaker DeWitt has a bill that pertains to donated land and added language to cover this situation may work. Chairman Denmon stated he was concerned with the precedent this may set with all of the lands forestry companies own. He added that the resolution by Commissioner Stone was a first step and that it should be monitored. Mr. Prickett stated he was glad the Commission instructed the Department to act and would take care of it. He added that the average tax for those lands is \$2 per acre and it could be leased to private clubs for much more money than that. Commissioner Stone asked if the press has written about this situation? Mr. Prickett answered it has gotten some press in Morehouse Parish and a News Release to the general outdoor press would go out from the Department. Plum Creek has committed to continue with a free lease on Union WMA. Commissioner Busbice seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Denmon then asked what was needed to remove Plum Creek WMA from the hunting schedule. Mr. Prickett suggested the Commission have a voice vote expressing its intent to remove that area. Commissioner Kelly made a motion expressing its intent to remove Plum Creek WMA from the hunting schedule. Commissioner Mouton seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Then the Chairman opened the meeting to other comments on hunting.

Mr. Phil Keller stated last year he recommended a handicap season for the Red River WMA or Maurepas WMA and has not heard anything on it for this year. Mr. Prickett stated there are a number of WMAs that have youth and handicapped hunts. Also there is a statewide handicapped deer hunt for either sex. This was a first request for such a hunt on either Red River or Maurepas, commented Mr. Prickett. He then suggested leaving the seasons as they are for this year and then look at the request next year. The hunts that are scheduled are on those areas staff felt would have the most access and the highest use from the handicapped hunters.

Mr. Glen Maxwell stated a petition with 115 names on it was presented at the last meeting to increase the deer dog hunting days in the Evangeline Unit of Kisatchie National Forest. Since then, Mr. Maxwell has obtained more information and gave that to the Commission. He then asked if it was true that the deer population in the Evangeline Unit of Kisatchie was too low to extend the season? Mr. Dave Moreland stated the browse surveys do not show the number of deers that are in Winn or Catahoula and that is in part due to the longleaf pine habitat. Mr. Maxwell stated in February 1990, a News Release was issued that noted the deer days in that area would be reduced from 56 days to 21 days. He disagreed with what Mr. Moreland stated, adding that 12 years later the deer population has quadrupled. Mr. Maxwell felt the solution to reduce the number of days has not worked and the hunters want their season back. This area of Kisatchie is bordered by private hunting clubs and DMAP clubs where they follow the Area 2 deer dates. Mr. Prickett stated Kisatchie is just like all of the WMAs, they all have had increased public pressure and the more people in the woods, the more deer that could be harvested. Private lands have less hunting pressure than public lands. As lands in the central part of the State were leased, this increased pressure on the National Forest lands. There was a deer study conducted on Kisatchie and it was obvious the deer herd was much lower than all surrounding private lands and so it was recommended to reduce the hunting pressure. The deer herd has responded over the last 10 years and is at the appropriate level but adding hunting pressure would reduce the deer herd to what it was in 1990. Mr. Maxwell stated he disagreed with Mr. Prickett and noted 90 percent of still hunters hunt in private hunting clubs. Underharvest is the problem with that particular area of Kisatchie and over the last 5 years, they have seen a decrease in the size of deer harvested because there are too many deer. Mr. Maxwell urged the Commission to honor the petition. He ended by stated Kisatchie is a National Forest and should not be treated as a wildlife management area.

Mr. Jed Junker from Metairie, requested that afternoon hunting on Pass-a-Loutre WMA be allowed. This area is similar to Atchafalaya Delta in that both sit on Deltas. Morning hunting can be affected by the tidal range.

Mr. Billwood Smith stated he has been hunting at the mouth of the River since 1975 and has the same concerns with tides and the logistical problems of getting to Pass-a-Loutre. In the late 1960's and early 1970's, hunting was not allowed in the afternoons east of the River and this released pressure off of the birds. If the regulation was put into place and wording added that this was for a trial period, Mr. Smith stated he would accept it. He then proposed that the closure be limited to the area west of the River.

Mr. Mike McIntyre from New Orleans stated he agreed with some of the statements about Pass-a-Loutre from the 2 previous speakers. He agreed that hunting pressure on the WMA has increased very dramatically in the last 10 years. He suggested the Commission consider eliminating go-devil type boats on the WMA since they make access easier than other boats. The proposed 2 p.m. closure will not eliminate pressure when hunters in the go-devils continue boating on the area.

Mr. Bren Haase stated he agreed with Mr. McIntyre. He then added that he has not seen where the Department has demonstrated there really is a problem on the areas and why closing hunting at 2 p.m. is the correct solution. He then recommended that Pass-a-Loutre and Biloxi WMAs be removed from the proposal.

Mr. Tommy Daigle expressed his concern on extending Area 6 archery season into the month of February. After a study by Mr. Moreland was done, it was found that the rut in the area occurs very, very late.

Mr. Bill Rochester stated he wanted to address the duck hunting situation in Pass-a-Loutre. He remarked that this WMA is one of the toughest duck hunting areas in the United States. He then asked if there has been pressure from the Federal Government or outside agencies such as private waterfowling groups? Mr. Rochester felt there has been a continuing process of discouraging sportsmen from hunting. Mr. Prickett stated there has been no pressure from any group and the recommendation was made with no ulterior motives. Duck hunting has changed dramatically and waterfowl managers have realized that ducks are very sensitive to hunting pressure and they will leave an area. Mr. Prickett then noted they are seeing a change in the way ducks behave. The recommendation was not intended to lighten hunting pressure, but was to improve the quality of the hunting. He then thanked the people who made suggestions and said they would be looked into. Mr. Rochester stated he appreciated Mr. Prickett's comments.

Mr. Clark Van Sickle began noting he spoke last month about Pass-a-Loutre WMA. He agreed there has been an increase in hunting pressure. Mr. Van Sickle then spoke about hunting pressure and what it meant. During the weeks of December and into January, there are few hunters on Pass-a-Loutre. On the weekends, you do not have a problem finding a place to hunt where you are not close to anyone. He suggested closing the area at 2 p.m. on each opening weekend and leave it open for all day hunting the rest of the season.

Mr. Brad Thibodaux commented the Department is always looking for additional monies and suggested making those over 60 years of age pay the same fee for a hunting license like those who are younger. When the baby boomers hit 60 years of age in the next 8-10 years, this will really reduce the license fees. He suggested hunters over 65 years of age could pay a reduced fee for their licenses. The next issue related to the deer hunting season. At the end of January during the muzzleloader season, Mr. Thibodaux observed that the deer were still rutting. He applauded the Commission's decision to establish a 6 point rule in Area 6. He then asked the Commission to extend the season to the middle of February to cover the ruts.

Commissioner Busbice asked Mr. Prickett if Mr. Dave Moreland was going to do another browse survey on Kisatchie? Mr. Prickett stated a request was made to do additional surveys to confirm the deer status on the National Forest lands. Department staff has met with the National Forest staff and an outline to gather additional information has been developed. Commissioner Busbice again asked that a browse survey be conducted.

Commissioner Felterman stated there has been a lot of comments on backing up the archery season in Area 6. He then asked if there have been any comments to leave the season as is or were they all to move it back? Mr. Prickett stated almost all of the comments received were to move that season structure later. Last year it was recommended to back up the entire season structure in Area 6, opening the archery season November 1. A tactical error was made by not replacing the lost days in November on the back end of the season and running it to the end of February. This was done to protect the small game hunters but those hunters did not come forward to make their feelings known. After the initial meeting last year, a recommendation was made to move the archery season on November 1 and extend the season into February. The hunters in the southern end of Area 6 came to the meetings and commented that change would affect them since their deer rut in November. A study by Mr. Moreland determined the rut in the southern end of Area 6 is in mid-December. When setting seasons, the Department uses priorities such as opening for holidays, making sure the centerfire rifle season overlaps the best part of the rut, and then including archery and muzzleloader seasons. Mr. Prickett felt there was room for compromise and noted from a biological standpoint, there is no problem with moving the season structure later. Commissioner Felterman asked if public comments could still be made at the next meeting? Mr. Don Puckett stated comments on the season dates could be accepted up until the time the rule is ratified, but on the permanent rule, comments should be accepted up until the June meeting. Commissioner Stone asked, if the season in Area 6 was

moved, this would upset the people in the southern end versus leaving it alone and upsetting the people in the northern end? Mr. Prickett answered yes and felt compromising the season would not alter the harvest in either area. Commissioner Stone stated last year there was a lot of comments received not in favor of moving the season backwards and this year the comments are wanting the season moved backwards. Mr. Prickett stated that was because the season was not moved this year.

Mr. Roland Dugas voiced his being in favor of extending the archery season into mid-February. He then asked when would the decision be made on this issue? Chairman Denmon stated the Area 6 change could be made up until the July meeting when the rule is ratified. Mr. Dugas asked the Commission to alter the proposed rule now so the public could be made aware of the change.

Mr. Kendall Williams, with the Bayou State Bowhunters, stated they were favor of backing the season up last year and still are in favor.

Mr. Brad Thibodaux stated last year the reason for the objections was due to the fact that hunting days were being lost. If you would move the archery season this year to run from October 15 to February 15, there would be no lost days. Then he asked if there was any biological reason not to extend the rabbit season to March 15? Mr. Prickett stated that probably would not be a good idea since the number of young rabbits accelerate sharply in the spring. Chairman Denmon asked for an answer to that question before the next meeting.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Denmon asked if the Commission wanted to take any action on the proposed rules? No motions were made and that concluded that agenda item.

Next, the agenda item, **Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease** was presented by Mr. Larry Savage. Over the last year, several presentations have been made on the serious threat Chronic Wasting Disease could have in Louisiana. Now it has been found in 12 states and 2 Canadian Provinces. There is very strong evidence that the movement of captive deer has accelerated the movement of the disease across the States. Mr. Savage reminded the Commission they passed an import ban on bringing deer and elk into the State, also imposed restrictions on the intrastate movement, passed rules on the disposal of carcasses and testing, and placed a moratorium on new game breeder pens. Biologists have been trained on this disease as well as developed educational programs, pamphlets, websites, conducted a testing statewide for chronic wasting disease and developed a surveillance and contingency plan.

A copy of the Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance and Contingency Plan was provided to the Commission. This multi-year Plan was developed by Department staff and has been reviewed by the Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Unit and will be used as the State's guidelines for surveillance and management.

Commissioner Busbice stated this has become a concern to the hunting public. He asked if there was a test to determine if an animal has the disease? Mr. Savage stated the test can only be performed on dead animals, there is not a practical live animal test. Commissioner Busbice asked if anyone has worked on developing a medicine? Mr. Savage answered no, there are too many unknowns. Commissioner Busbice then asked if there was a lead person on this disease? Mr. Savage stated Dr. Beth Williams and people from Colorado have been working on this disease for 30 years. To answer Commissioner Busbice's question on any new states with the outbreak, Mr. Savage stated the states adjacent to Wisconsin, Utah, Minnesota and Illinois, have the disease. Some good news, the Southeast Disease Study Group has tested 8,000 samples from 12 southeast states and there were no reports of the disease. Lastly, Commissioner Busbice asked if it was conceivable that with more deer on the range, could they become less healthy due to the lack of nutrition? Mr. Savage stated that the most common problem in deer herds is deficient nutrition and they become more susceptible to parasites. The closer the contact in a herd, the easier it is to transmit the disease to other animals. The other bit of information Mr. Savage provided was results of the 2002 testing. The goal was to test 1,000 animals primarily from hunter harvested deer. This goal was exceeded and a total of 1,258 were tested. Of that total, 1,125 did not show signs of having chronic wasting disease. Results of the Department of Agriculture's testing of 105 animals also showed no signs of the disease. Participation from DMAP hunters, the National Forest land hunters, WMA hunters readily donated their deer heads when asked. This is just the beginning of the surveillance program, concluded Mr. Savage. Mr. Prickett commended Mr. Savage noting he has gone above and beyond the call of duty with this program. He also added Mr. Savage was instrumental in developing the Chronic Wasting Disease action plan and coordinating this plan with the biologists in the field.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **September 2003 Meeting** on Thursday, September 4, 2003 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Denmon then asked for **Public Comments**. Mr. Darrel Tassin stated he is a student at LSU and asked Mr. Savage if there are any studies that showed chronic wasting disease was transmitted

to humans and are there any studies that shows this disease has not already occurred. Mr. Savage stated the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control has done extensive testing on the prion diseases and found no link between eating deer or elk meat and the transmission to humans. He noted most of the publications say it is between 3 to 5 years before symptoms begin to appear. The World Health Organization recommends not eating deer meat from a sick animal or one that has tested positive for chronic wasting disease.

Mr. Kendall Williams asked when would be the last time public comments would be taken on the archery season? Chairman Denmon stated those dates could be changed at the June and July meetings.

There being no further business, Commissioner Felterman made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Kelly.

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

JHJ:sch



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2theadvocate > Outdoors > State seeks rules for waterways 05/11/03

2theadvocate Outdoors

State seeks rules for waterways

LDWF proposes national guides as boating standards

By JOE MACALUSO
jmacaluso@theadvocate.com
Advocate outdoors writer

In the latter stages of the last century, Charlie Clark and his staff were breathing deep sighs of relief.

It looked like their emphasis on boating safety was paying off.

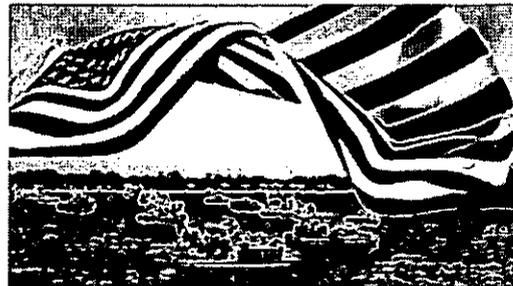
Accidents were down, and boating fatalities tailed off sharply.

"We knew there was a lot to do, and we were doing it ... working hard on boating education courses and maintaining a presence on the water," Capt. Robbie Duthu said.

Duthu is a member of Clark's staff in the state Wildlife and Fisheries' Enforcement Division. Clark is LDWF's boating law administrator, and as second in command in the enforcement division -- he is lieutenant colonel -- he's in charge of safety on Louisiana navigable waters.

Clark, Duthu and the smallish group of men and women in the Boat Safety Section are running hard these days. And if they're breathing deep, it's because they're trying to catch their breaths.

Why? Boating fatalities in Louisiana have jumped from the teens in the late 1990s to near 30 last year, the second year of a marked increase in on-water



Advocate file photo

The American flag flies high above the judges pier as participants in the Boat Parade on False River drift by in their boat-floats to be judged on Friday, July 4, 1997.



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deaths. Clark said the staff knew what to do next.

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Earlier this month, Clark went to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission with a plan to make the nationally accepted "Rules of the Road" the rules governing Louisiana boating.

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"This is the first step in requiring adherence to the rules," Maj. Keith LaCaze said. "The rules have been out there for a long time. The U.S. Coast Guard publishes Rules of the Road, and it's something we have to have."

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The rules were issued as a notice of intent, so the public has 120 days to comment on making the 20-rule list part of the LDWF's standard operating procedure. The group said it hopes that the notice of intent is ratified at the LWFC's September meeting and that the Legislature will pass a bill that would require mandatory boating education.

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the Corner,
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Convertibles,
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"The rising number of boating accidents in the last couple of years, and the rising number of fatalities goes along with an increases in recreational boating and personal watercraft," LaCaze said. "As enforcement agents we need them when investigations (into boating accidents) indicates there is evidence of a deviation from the Rules of the Road was a factor in the accident, then we can also issue a citation. Right now, we don't have that ability."

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LaCaze said the Rules of the Road are mostly a common-sense approach to piloting a boat.

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"They are rules about boats passing on the right and which boat must give way to another. ... In other words, which boat has the right of way," LaCaze said. "All too frequently, we find in collisions between two boats that it was caused by one of the other operating on the wrong side of the waterway or a failure to yield to a privileged vessel."

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Comments on the Notice of Intent can be made to Lt. Col. Charlie Clark, 225-765-2989, or to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, 225-765-2801.

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LWFC sets May 13 opener for zone II shrimping season

By **JOE MACALUSO**

Advocate outdoors writer

For the second straight year, shrimpers in Louisiana's shrimp-producing Barataria-Terrebonne estuary system will have a midweek opener for the state's spring inshore season.

Thursday's unanimous vote of the seven-man Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission set opening day for Zone II along with waters in Breton and Chandeleur sounds for May 13, a Tuesday. The 2002 season in those areas had a mid-week opening day, too, marking a departure from the years-long custom of opening inshore seasons on Mondays.

The LWFC also voted a May 26 opener for the remaining portion of Zone I -- Breton and Chandeleur are in Zone I -- and Zone III. The spring inshore season yields brown shrimp.

Zone I runs from the Louisiana-Mississippi state line to South Pass of the Mississippi River. Zone II takes in the coastal area from South Pass to the western shoreline of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, while Zone III runs from that point to the Louisiana-Texas line.

The different dates were derived from data compiled by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries marine biologists. Shrimp Study leader Marty Bourgeois said those dates correspond to growth rates of the brown shrimp already in the estuaries along the coast. He told the LWFC that 50 percent of the shrimp in Zone II will reach 100 count -- 100 shrimp to the pound -- somewhere between May 10 and May 13.

Currently, shrimp in Zone III are small and projections show the 50-percent/100-count mark could be reached May 26.

The data also showed shrimp in Zone I could reach that mark prior to May 12.

Bourgeois said the LDWF's recommendation for May 26 in Zone I's northern section, mostly Lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain, is based on shrimpers input showing larger shrimp bring higher prices.

As many as six Zone II shrimpers asked for a May 5 opener, saying that north winds and tides sent brown shrimp from coastal areas before the 2002 season

opened.

Scott St. Pierre from Galliano, a community in the heart of Zone II, said he can't make money for 80-100 count shrimp.

"In my boat, that's junk," he said referring to the small, canning-sized shrimp. "We need better quality shrimp to get a better price, but if the season opens tomorrow I'll be out there with everyone else."

Otherwise, Zones I and III shrimpers said they were pleased with the May 26 opener.

In other action, the LWFC approved a Notice of Intent stating that Rules of the Road, a U.S. Coast Guard standard for operating boats, will "dictate the operation of vessels upon the waters of the state." ... Heard a report on steps taken by the LDWF to keep Chronic Wasting Disease in deer and elk out of the state; and, approved June 7-8 as free fishing days in the state.

The commission also learned the Plum Creek Timber Co. has revoked its free-lease agreement with the LDWF for the 25,500-acre Plum Creek Wildlife Management Area in Morehouse Parish. The LWFC voted to remove the WMA from its 2003-04 hunting regulations package.

The commission also took public comment on the proposed 2003-04 hunting seasons. Comments were divided among canceling a planned 2 p.m. closing-to-hunting rule on Pass-a-Loutre and Biloxi WMAs, a Feb. 15 extension of the archery season for deer in State Deer Area 6 and increasing deer-hunting days on the Evangeline Management Unit in the Kisatchie National Forest. The LWFC took no action on the comments.

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COMMISSION MEETING
ROLL CALL

Thursday, May 1, 2003
Baton Rouge, LA
Wildlife & Fisheries Building

	Attended	Absent
Terry Denmon (Chairman)	<u>✓</u>	—
Lee Felterman	<u>✓</u>	—
Bill Busbice	<u>✓</u>	—
Tom Kelly	<u>✓</u>	—
Wayne Sagraera	<u>✓</u>	—
Jerry Stone	<u>✓</u>	—
Henry Mouton	<u>✓</u>	—

Mr. Chairman:

There are 7 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Jenkins is also present.

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
May 1, 2003
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands - Henry Mouton
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season - Marty Bourgeois
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/April - Keith LaCaze
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels - Charlie Clark
8. Fishing Week Resolution - John Sturgis
9. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
10. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease - Larry Savage
11. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment

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BATON ROUGE, LA
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ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

APRIL 2003

REGION 1:MINDEN
18 Agent positions

PARISHES: BIENVILLE, BOSSIER,
CADDO, CLAIBORNE,
WEBSTER

TOTAL CASES	86
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
22	Boating Safety
33	Angling W/O Resident License
4	Angling W/O License - Non-Resident
9	Fishing W/O Resident Pole License
3	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
1	Engage In Activity During Revocation
1	Sell &/Or Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood License
1	Caddo Lake - (Yo-Yo Regs)
1	Hunt, Stand, Or Loiter From Public Road
1	Hunt Turkey W/O A Turkey Stamp
1	Hunt Turkey Closed Area
2	Hunt Turkey Over Bait
3	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA
1	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Permit
2	Littering
1	Discharge Firearm From Public Road

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
10	
5	Boating Safety
2	Angling W/O Resident License
3	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
5 rod & reel combos; 2 black bass.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION I

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
22	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing
00	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
5	Miscellaneous
50	Recreational Fishing
6	State Hunting/Trapping
10	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
5	Public Assistance

REGION 2:MONROE
20 Agent positions

**PARISHES: E. CARROLL, JACKSON,
 LINCOLN, MOREHOUSE
 QUACHITA, RICHLAND
 UNION, W. CARROLL**

TOTAL CASES	118
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
34	Boating
43	Angle Without A License
7	Obtain License By Fraud
7	Angle Without A Non-resident License
1	Fail To Report Commercial Fishery Data
1	No Commercial Non-resident License
1	No Wholesale/Retail License
1	No Commercial Gear License-Non-resident
3	No Retain License
1	Violate Recreational Gear License
8	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
4	Operate ATV On Public Road
1	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations on WMA
1	Hunt On DMAP Without Permit

2	Fish Without Resident Pole License
3	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS :

TOTAL 26	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Angle Without Resident License
2	Expired Boat Registration
4	Fail To Comply With PFD Requirements
5	No Boat Registration Certificate In Possession
2	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA
1	Operate Unregistered Boat
1	Fail To Have PFD On Child Under 13 Years Of Age
2	Improper Fire Extinguisher
1	Hunt On DMAP Without Permit

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1- commercial fishing license, 1-reptile & amphibian collector license, 1-fresh product license, 1-trammel net gear license, 1-hoop net gear license, 1-gill net gear license, 1- basic fishing license, 7- black bass, 4-rod & reels.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
34	Boating
14	Commercial Fishing
-0-	Federal Migratory
3	Littering
4	Miscellaneous
61	Recreational Fishing
2	State Hunting/Trapping
26	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
11	Public Assistance (Assisting Stranded Motorists and Boaters; Tornado Damage Assistance)

REGION 3:ALEXANDRIA

PARISHES:AVOUELLES, GRANT
 NATCHITOCHEs
 RAPIDES, SABINE
 VERNON, WINN

26 Agent positions

TOTAL CASES	126
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
37	Boating
1	Hunting W/O Resident License
1	Hunt Turkey W/O Resident Big Game License
3	Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area
3	Hunt Turkey Closed Area
2	Take Alligator Closed Season
42	Angling W/O A License
1	Sell Fish W/O Retail Seafood License
3	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
5	Fish W/O Resident Pole License
4	Angling W/O A License Non-Resident
2	Possess Undersize Freshwater Game Fish
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Gear License
13	Littering
1	Obstruction Of Justice
3	Operate ATV On Public Road

2	Misrepresentation During Issuance Of Misdemeanor
1	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunt Permit
1	Simple Possession Of Marijuana

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
6 bass, 5 alligators, and 1 bag of marijuana.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
37	Boating
2	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
13	Littering
7	Miscellaneous
56	Recreational Fishing
11	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
13	Public Assistance

REGION 4:FERRIDAY
24 Agent positions

PARISHES: CALDWELL, CATAHOULA
CONCORDIA, FRANKLIN
LASALLE, MADISON, TENSAS

TOTAL CASES	112
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
50	Boating
23	Angling W/O Resident License
8	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License
22	Fish W/O Resident Pole License
2	Take Game Fish Illegally
1	Take Over Limit Of Fresh Fish (bass)
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial License
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
1	Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area
1	Possession Of Live Non –Game Quadrupeds W/O Permit
2	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 8	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating Safety Violations

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
64 crappie, 4 bass; 1 bream; 85 yards of gill net.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
50	Boating
5	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
53	Recreational Fishing
2	State Hunting/Trapping
8	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Public Assistance

REGION 5:LAKE CHARLES
23 Agent positions

PARISHES: BEAUREGARD, CALCASIEU
EVANGELINE, ALLEN,
CAMERON, ACADIA,
VERMILION, JEFF DAVIS

TOTAL CASES	161
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
51	Boating
24	Angling W/O A License
2	Angling W/O A License Non. Res.
11	Angling W/O Saltwater License
6	Angling W/O Saltwater Non. Res.
2	Take/Poss. O/L or Undersized Freshwater Game Fish – Bass – O/L
5	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
3	Take Or Poss. U/S Reddrum – Rec.
1	Take Or Poss. Overlimit Of Black Drum-Rec.
8	Take Or Poss. U/S Black Drum – Rec.
4	Take Or Sell Comm. Fish Or Bait Species W/O Comm. Lic.
5	Take Comm. Fish W/O Comm. Gear Lic. – Trawl
5	Take Or Poss. Comm. Fish W/O Vessel Lic.
3	Sell &/Or Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood Lic.
5	Failure To Maintain Records

1	Allow Unlic. Fisherman To Use Vessel Lic. Or Vessel (Lic)
1	Allow Unlic. Fisherman To Use CML Gear Lic.
4	Use Trawl Exceeding Size Req. (Offshore – La. Waters)
1	Take Or. Poss. Alligators C/S
5	Frog Closed Season
1	Not Abiding By Rules and Regulations On WMA
2	Illegal Poss. Of Drugs Or Marijuana
1	Operate Boat While Intoxicated
1	Illegal Spotighting From Public Road
8	Littering
1	Misrepresentation During Issuance Of Misdemeanor

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	11	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2		Angling W/O A License
1		Comm. Rules and Regulations – Red Snapper – O/L 29 LBS/Comm
2		No Boat Registration Cert. In Poss.
1		Failure To Display Valid Certificate Decal
2		Improper Or No Sound Producing Device
1		Failure To Comply W/PFD Req.
2		Improper Or No Fire Extinguisher

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1 fishing license; 1 cigarette; 1 cigarette package; 5 beer cans; seafood receipts; 1 alligator to nuisance hunter; 1 rifle, 8 rods; 8 reels; 2 bull frogs RTW; 4-55' trawls; 8,228 lbs. of shrimp sold for \$15,394.40; 33 lbs. black bass – donated; 7 undersize black bass; 3 undersize reddrum; 43 undersize blackdrum – rtw or destroyed.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
51	Boating
28	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
8	Littering
5	Miscellaneous
62	Recreational Fishing
6	State Hunting/Trapping
11	Written Warnings
1	Wildlife Management Area

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
2	Public Assistance

REGION 6:OPELOUSAS
24 Agent positions

PARISHES: IBERIA, IBERVILLE,
PT.COUPPEE,LAFAYETTE
ST.MARTIN,IBERIA
IBERVILLE,W.B.R.

TOTAL CASES	228
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
70	Boating
99	Angling W/O License
4	Discharge Firearm From Public Road
6	Hunt, Stand, Loiter From Public Road
5	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
4	Angling W/O Non-Resident License
5	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
1	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
1	Contest Fraud
1	Not Abiding By Commission Rules
4	Illegal Possession Of Alligator, Eggs Or Their Skins
4	Operate ATV Vehicle On Public Road
3	Take/Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License
2	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

3	Simple Possession Of Marijuana
1	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
1	Failure To Tag Containerized Oysters
1	Violation Of Sanitary Code
5	Angling W/O Pole License
1	Littering
2	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirements
1	Take/Possess Undersize Red Drum
1	Selling For Resale Untagged Oysters
1	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood License

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 78	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Boating
37	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
24	Use WMA W/O License Or Stamp
11	Angling W/O License In Possession
2	Angling W/O Saltwater License

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
4 rod and reels, 6 black bass, 1 check in the amount of \$500.00, 3 sac-a-lait, 1 alligator, 19 ½ sacks of crawfish, one pipe, one bag containing green leafy vegetable-like substance, 2 quarts of unlabeled/untagged oysters, 1 cigarette containing green leafy vegetable-like substance, 1 red drum, 11 purchase receipts.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
70	Boating
9	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
14	Miscellaneous
115	Recreational Fishing
19	State Hunting/Trapping
78	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Public Assistance

REGION 7:BATON ROUGE

22 Agent positions

**PARISHES: ASCENSION, E.B. ROUGE,
E. FELICIANA, LIVINGSTON,
ST. HELENA, ST. TAMMANY,
TANGIPAHOA, WASHINGTON,
W. FELICIANA**

TOTAL CASES	231
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
125	Boating
64	Angling w/o Basic Resident License
9	Angling w/o Basic Non-Resident License
1	Selling Undersize Crabs (10-19%)
2	Possess Undersize Crabs (over 20%)
3	Buy or Sell w/o Wholesale/Retail Dealers License
2	Failure to Maintain Records
2	Take Commercial Fish w/o Commercial Gear License
1	Take Commercial w/o Commercial License
1	Take Commercial Fish w/o Vessel License
1	Obtain License Fraudulently
1	Violate Recreational Gear License
2	Hunt w/o Basic Res. License
2	Hunt Turkey w/o Big Game License

3	Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area
3	Hunt Turkeys w/o Turkey Stamp
1	Hunt Deer from a Public Road
1	Hunt w/o Senior License
1	Violate Rules and Regulations on a W.M.A.
1	Misrepresentation During Writing of Misdemeanor Summons
4	Littering
1	Title 32 Motor Vehicle Traffic Violation

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 22	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
6	Boating
9	Fishing w/o Res. License
5	Not Abiding by W.M.A. Rules and Regulations
2	Use W.M.A. w/o License or Stamp

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
4-rod and reels , 18 boxes of crabs returned to water.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
125	Boating
12	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
4	Littering
1	Miscellaneous
74	Recreational Fishing
15	State Hunting/Trapping
22	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
14	Public Assistance: 5—Assist Motorists 9—Assist Boaters

REGION 8:NEW ORLEANS
23 Agent positions

PLAQUEMINE, ST. BERNARD,
ORLEANS, JEFFERSON
ST. CHARLES

TOTAL CASES	347
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
119	Boating
99	Angling W/O A License
31	Angling W/O A License Non-Resident
6	Angling W/O Saltwater Lic.
2	Angling W/O Saltwater Lic. Non-Resident
1	Take/Poss. Of Red Drum in Excess of 27"
1	Take/Poss. O/L Red Drum (On Water)
7	Take/Poss. Red Drum in EEZ
2	Fail to Have Fish Intact (Saltwater)
1	Take or Poss. Undersized Red Drum(Recreational)
2	Take or Poss. Undersized Black Drum
4	Commission Rules and Regs. Red Snapper
2	Commission Rules and Regs. Amberjack
2	Commission Rules and Regs. Shark
2	Take or Poss. O/L Black Drum (Recreational) Commission Action
1	Fail to Comply with Charter Boat Regulations

1	Commission Rules and Regs. Shark
2	Take or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Lic.
1	CML Fisherman Sell to Consumer without a Fresh Products License
2	Take Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Fish Lic.
3	Take Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Gear Lic.
5	Take or Poss. Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License
2	Sell and/or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's Lic.
5	Fail to Maintain Records
6	Transport W/O Required Lic.
1	Use Saltwater Net Illegally
2	Use Crab Traps W/O Required Markings
2	Removing Contents from Crab Traps
1	Allow Unlicensed fisherman use CML Gear Lic.
1	Fail to Mark Crab Containers
2	Take/Possess Oysters W/O Oyster Harvester Lic.
2	Possess Undersized Crabs
4	Trawling in Closed Season (Inside Waters)
4	Use Oversize Trawl, Trawl Board
1	Harvest Oysters W/O Oyster Harvester License
6	Failure to Display Proper Number on Vessel

7	Littering
2	Obtain License by Fraud
2	Operating a Vessel While Intoxicated
1	Misrepresentation during issuance of Misdemeanor summons

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 24	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
10	Boating
10	Angling W/O A License
1	Angling W/O Saltwater Lic.
2	Take or Poss. Undersized Spotted Sea Trout
1	Commission Rules and Regs. Red Snapper

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
<p>Returned to water :170 lbs. of crabs, 286 sacks of oysters, 30 crabs, 2 black drum, 1 bass, 400 lbs. of fish and 15 lbs. of seafood.</p> <p>1 red fish, 1 yellow fin tuna, 1 garfish, sold 1,467 lbs. of shrimp sold for\$2,934.00, 3,160 lbs. of tuna sold for \$9454.00, 15 red snapper, 1 shark, 24 red fish, 1 black drum, 37 ½ lbs. of amberjack plus 4 whole amberjack.</p> <p>Beer cans, ice chest, 24 pk. Beer case, 2 dredges, 15 rod and reels, 4 crab traps, 1 basic license, 3 pans of seafood, 204 lbs. of colarboned catfish, 100 lbs. cleaned garfish, 50 lbs. of cleaned gaspergoo, 400 lbs. of sheepshead, 1 trawl, 1 commercial gear license, 1 boat and motor, 1 driver's license.</p>

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
119	Boating
51	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
7	Littering
5	Miscellaneous
165	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
24	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
7	Public Assistance

REGION 9: SCHRIEVER

25 Agent positions

**PARISHES: ASSUMPTION,
ST. JAMES
ST. JOHN, ST. MARY
TERREBONNE, LAFOURCHE
JEFFERSON-GRAND ISLE
LOWER ST. MARTIN**

TOTAL CASES	313
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
152	Boating
69	Angling Without A Fishing License
11	Angling Without A Non-Resident License
26	Angling Without Saltwater License
3	Angling Without Non-Resident License
4	Take Over Limit Black Drum (Recreational)
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Vessel License
2	Fail To Maintain Records
1	Unlawfully Take Oysters off A Private Lease
1	Possess Live Wild Quadruped Without Permit
2	Frog Closed Season
10	Possession Of Alcohol By Person Under 21
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations By Burning On WMA
1	Illegal Possession Of Drugs

1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations By Possessing Firearm On WMA
6	Littering
13	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
1	Take Undersized Red Drum (Recreational)
1	Take Undersized Spotted Sea Trout (Recreational)
5	Take Undersized Black Drum (Recreational)
2	Commission Rules And Regulations Take Red Snapper Closed Season (Recreational)

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 98	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
78	Boating
8	Angling Without License
7	Angling Without Saltwater License
5	Not Abiding By WMA Rules And Regulations

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
11 frogs, 1 choupique, 1 bag alligator meat, 7 catfish, 14 black bass, 100 lbs. crabs, 2 red snapper, 3 large mouth bass, 3 speckled trout, 1 red drum, 26 black drum, 1 squirrel and squirrel cage, 9 rods and reels, 34 cans beer, 1 bottle vodka, 1 container marijuana, 1 cigarette.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
152	Boating
4	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
6	Littering
13	Miscellaneous
135	Recreational Fishing
3	State Hunting/Trapping
98	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
22	Public Assistance

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE
3 Agent positions

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	50
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
19	Boating
1	Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O A Commercial Gear License
1	Allow Unlicensed Fisherman To Use Commercial Gear License
1	Unlawfully Take Oysters From Private Lease
2	Violate Sanitary Code (Refrigeration)
11	Angling W/O A Basic Resident Fishing License
7	Angling W/O A Saltwater License
3	Take Or Possess Undersize Black Drum
4	Take Or Possess Overlimit Of Black Drum
1	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
80 sacks of oysters, 22 black drum.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
19	Boating
5	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
25	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance

SEAFOOD INVESTIGATIVE UNIT
8 Agent positions

STATEWIDE

TOTAL CASES	11
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retailers License
1	Retail Dealer, Restaurant, Retail Grocery Buy Fish From Other Than Wholesale Retail Dealer
4	Fail To Maintain Records
2	Transport W/O Required License
1	Fail To Report Commission Fisheries Data

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
Returned to water: 125 lbs. of catfish filets, 7 ½ sacks of oysters, 50 lbs. of crabs .

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SEAFOOD INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Boating
11	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory

0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
0	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

S.W.E.P.
8 Agent positions

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	18
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
5	Boating
2	Possession Crabs Over 20% Undersize
1	Sell Crabs Between 10%-19% Undersize
3	No Vessel License
1	Not Abiding By Commercial Rules And Regs. Improper Tagged Crab Traps
4	Angling W/O A Basic Fishing Resident License
1	Angling W/O A Basic Fishing License Non-Resident
1	No Red Snapper Permit
1	No Reef Fish Permit

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
2400 lbs. of crabs, 32 red snapper sold for \$293.50, 3 trigger fish, 1 warsaw grouper, 21 speckled trout, and 1 gill net, 3,160 lbs. of tuna sold for \$10,000.00.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR S.W.E.P.

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
5	Boating
8	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
5	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REFUGE PATROL
8 Agent positions

**MARSH ISLAND,
ROCKEFELLER, STATE
WILDLIFE**

TOTAL CASES	30
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
17	Boating
1	Collect Reptile Or Amphibians Recreational W/O A Basic Fishing License
1	Angle W/O A Saltwater License
5	Frogging In Closed Season
6	Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 6	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Angling W/O A Basic Fishing License
1	Fail To Comply With P.F.D. Requirements
3	Not Boat Registration In Possession

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
5 spotlights, 1 frog gig, 1 ice chest, 32 bullfrogs, 2 black drum.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REFUGE PATROL

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
17	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
6	Miscellaneous
1	Recreational Fishing
5	State Hunting/Trapping
6	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Public Assistance-2 first aid, 3 towed boaters, and 1 stranded motorist

TOTAL CASES -1831

NOTE: WRITTEN WARNINGS = 283

ENFORCEMENT AVIATION REPORT
APRIL, 2003

185-Amph. - 61092
Hrs. - 40.5

185-Float - 9667Q
Hrs. - 19.6

210 - 9467Y
Hrs. - 10.0

Enforcement Hours - 61.9

Other Divisions - 8.2

Total Plane Use - 70.1

LaCaze, B "Keith"

From: Banks, Tisha
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2003 8:36 AM
To: LaCaze, B "Keith"
Subject: FW: LDWF News from Region 7 (April 29, 2003)

-----Original Message-----

From: DeGraff, Jeffrey
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2003 8:20 AM
To: Banks, Tisha
Subject: FW: LDWF News from Region 7 (April 29, 2003)

From: DeGraff, Jeffrey
Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2003 3:10 PM
To: Burke, Marianne
Subject: LDWF News from Region 7 (April 29, 2003)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

The Public Information Section of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is responsible for the distribution of LDWF news releases and the department's biweekly newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact one of the following Public Information Section staff members:

Thomas Gresham
Media Relations Manager
(gresham_tp@wlf.state.la.us)

Jeffrey DeGraff
Public Information Officer
(degraff_ja@wlf.state.la.us)

2003-127

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL DIES IN BOATING ACCIDENT

Summer Suzanne Crawford, 14, of Bogalusa, died late Tuesday night at the St. Tammany Parish Hospital in Covington from injuries sustained from a boating accident.

Crawford and Mary Michelle Stogner, 16, also of Bogalusa, were riding an inner-tube-type ski toy, towed by a 16-foot motorboat operated by Crawford's father, Jerry Wayne Crawford, 43, of Bogalusa.

While towing the two girls on Lock #2 Canal near the eastern canal shore, Jerry Crawford allegedly made a sudden turn toward the center of the canal unintentionally slinging the toy and the two girls into a tree approximately one quarter of a mile North of Lock #2.

Both victims were transported by Jerry Crawford to the public launch at Lock #3 in Sun, Louisiana where medical personnel treated them. Summer Crawford, due to the severity of her injuries was

transported by helicopter to St. Tammany Hospital in Covington. Stogner was transported by ambulance.

The incident is still under investigation by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division.

EDITORS: For more information, contact Maj. Keith LaCaze at 225/765-2469 (lacaze_bk@wlf.state.la.us).

-30-

America's WETLANDS Impact Zone

When the United States paid France \$15 million nearly two centuries ago for 828,000 square miles of land west of the Mississippi River known as the Louisiana Purchase, it was described as the greatest real estate deal in history.

Nearly two centuries later, we are losing the heart of this purchase - **America's WETLAND.**

America's WETLAND is one of the largest and most productive expanses of coastal wetlands in North America. This valuable landscape extending along Louisiana's coast is disappearing at a rate of 35 square miles per year.

Home to 40% of the nation's wetlands, an alarming 80% of all coastal wetland loss in the continental United States occurs in Louisiana.

This campaign is one of the most important ways we can get the public and Congress to support our efforts to restore and prevent further loss of these wetlands.

Governor M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Louisiana



How You Can Help

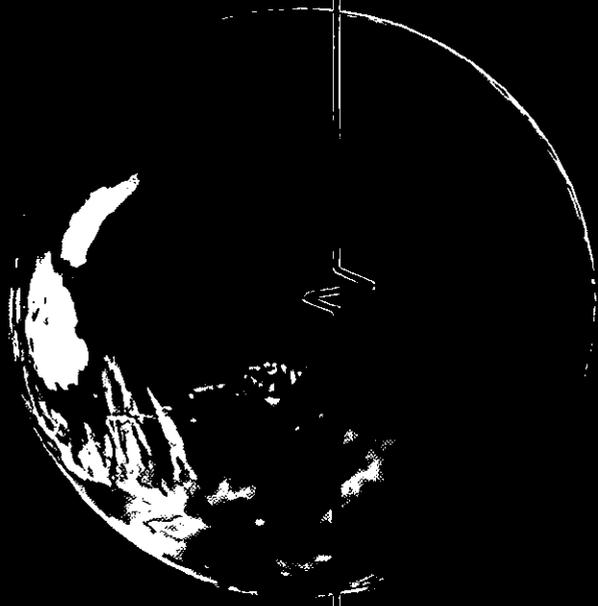
To make this issue a national priority, it must also be a national concern. If this crisis is not addressed with deliberate speed, Louisiana and the nation will pay dearly with its economic and energy security, environment, culture and way of life. Restoring coastal Louisiana is within our reach, but a lifeline is needed.

America's WETLAND: Campaign to Save Coastal Louisiana encourages you to join efforts to save this important resource. For more information on how you can support the **America's WETLAND** campaign, please visit www.americaswetland.com or call 1.866.4WETLAND.

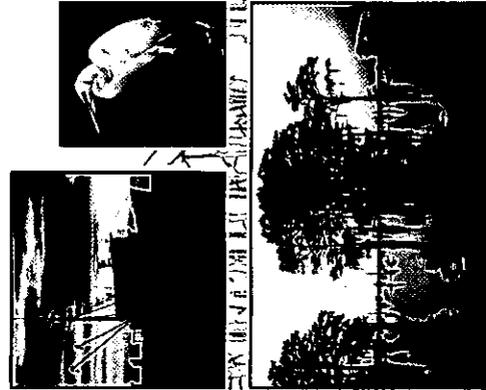
1.866.4WETLAND
www.americaswetland.com

America's WETLAND
P.O. Box 44249
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4249

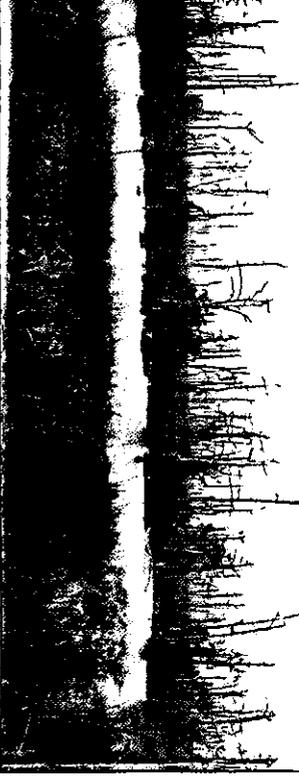
This brochure brought to you through the generous support of the Shell Oil Company Foundation.



Printed on recycled paper.



America's
WETLAND
Campaign to Save Coastal Louisiana
www.americaswetland.com



Economic and Ecological Impacts for the Nation and the World

America's WETLAND is the seventh largest delta on earth and is the heart of an intricate ecosystem on the verge of collapse. These wetlands are the wintering habitat for millions of waterfowl and migratory birds whose habitat is lost as the wetlands disappear.

A quarter of the nation relies on these working wetlands, which provide natural protection for the oil and gas pipelines that serve as a major artery for delivering the fuel to heat our homes and power our cars. As conditions worsen, the environmental damage in the event of a hurricane or storm is unthinkable. The nation's economic and energy security is also put at risk as the probability increases for interruption of oil and gas production and distribution.

The Solution

Restoring America's WETLAND will require sustained support from state and federal governments and cost upwards of \$14 billion, a small price considering the estimated cost of inaction will amount to more than \$100 billion in infrastructure alone.

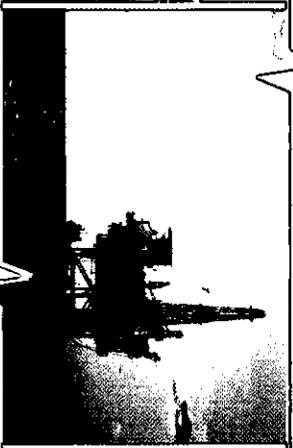
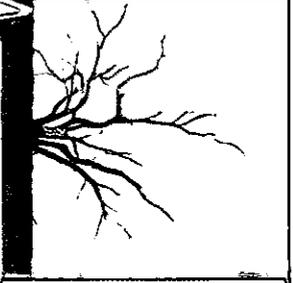
Louisiana and its federal partners, through the Breaux Act, developed the Coast 2050 plan, a blueprint for restoring coastal Louisiana in a way that will sustain its value for the nation and world. The effort to restore America's WETLAND will be one of the largest engineering projects ever attempted in this country. However, the costs are on a far larger scale than current funds allow.



In the largest public awareness initiative in its history, Louisiana is leading America's WETLAND: Campaign to Save Coastal Louisiana. The three-year campaign will raise awareness of the impact Louisiana's wetland loss has on the state, nation and world and will increase support for efforts to save coastal Louisiana.

It is the worst condition of erosion and loss of incredibly invaluable coastal wetlands that anyone has documented in the world.

U.S. Representative
W.J. "Billy" Tauzin
Louisiana



The Louisiana wetlands contain some of the world's most unique wildlife and if we don't work to protect this habitat, it will be lost forever.

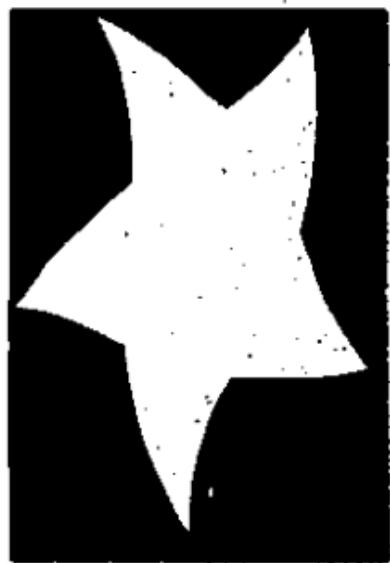
U.S. Senator John B. Breaux, Louisiana



We can talk all we want, and we can plan all we want, but if we don't have the money to actually make these projects real, they will just remain on the drawing board. What we want to do is make these plans real for the American people.

U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu, Louisiana





America's

WETLAND

Campaign to Save Coastal Louisiana

KEEP IT

ALIVE!

www.americaswetland.com

1.866.4WETLAND

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
AND FISHERIES**

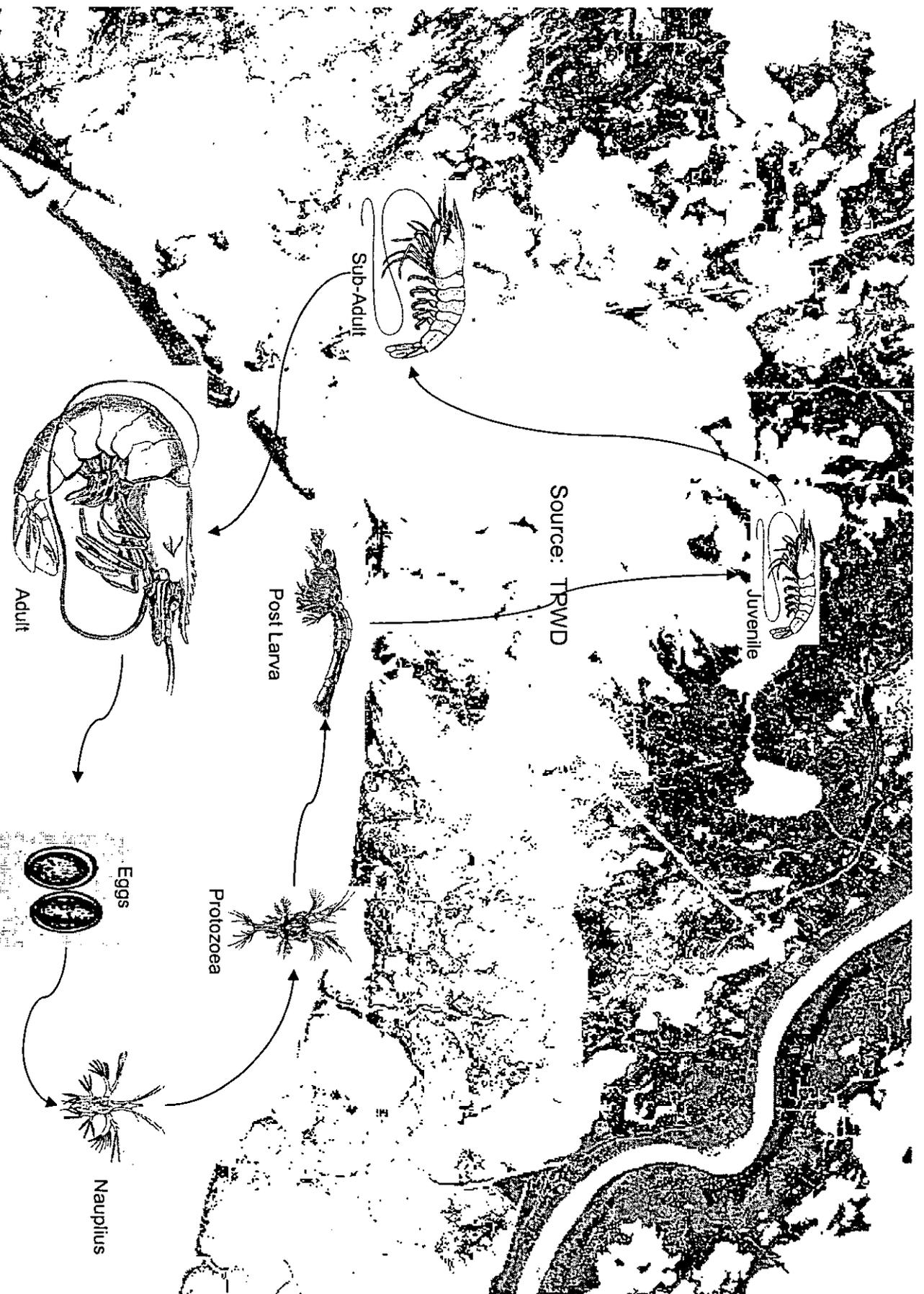
MARINE FISHERIES DIVISION



ANNUAL SPRING SHRIMP PRESENTATION

MAY 1, 2003

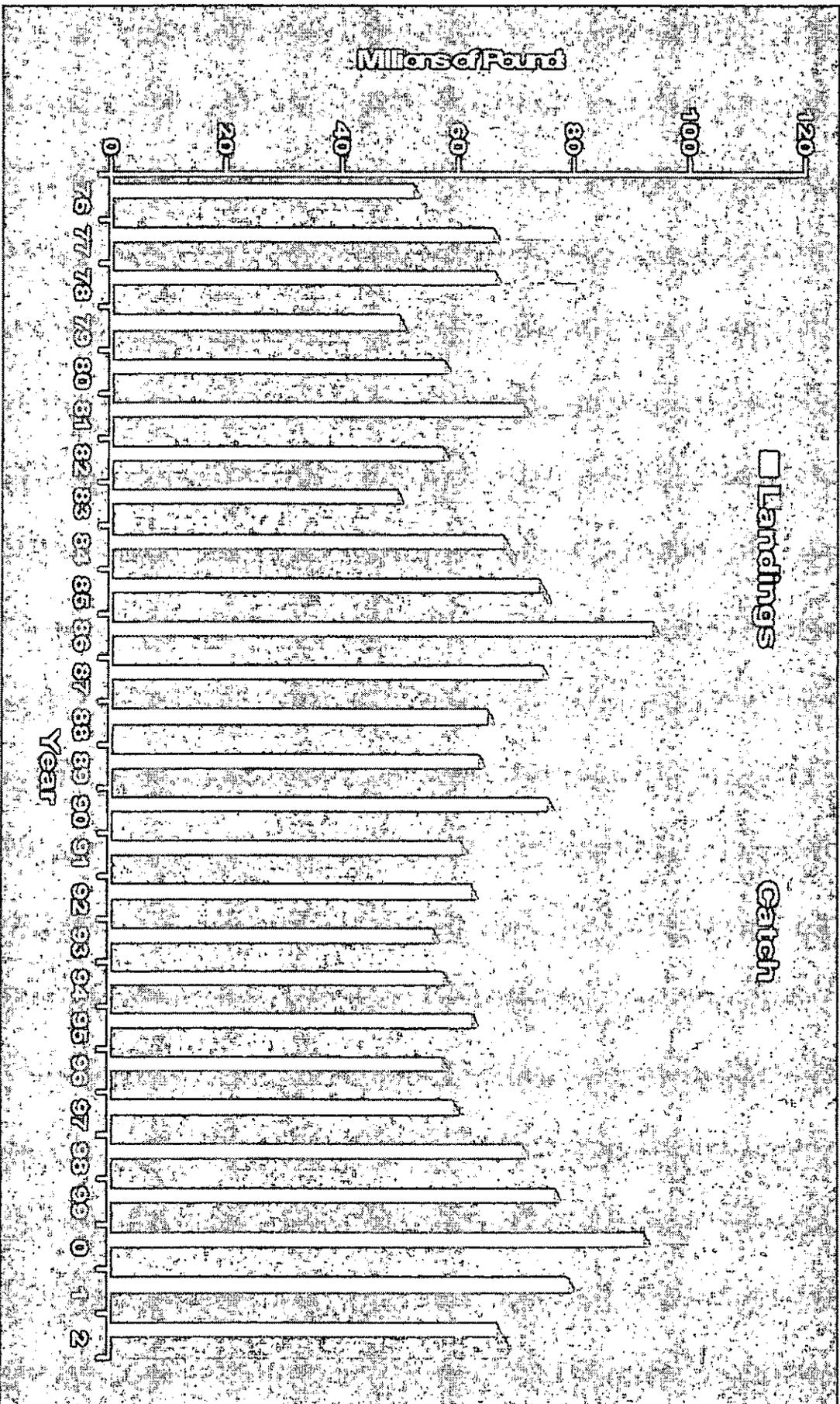
SHRIMP LIFE CYCLE DIAGRAM



Source: LDWF

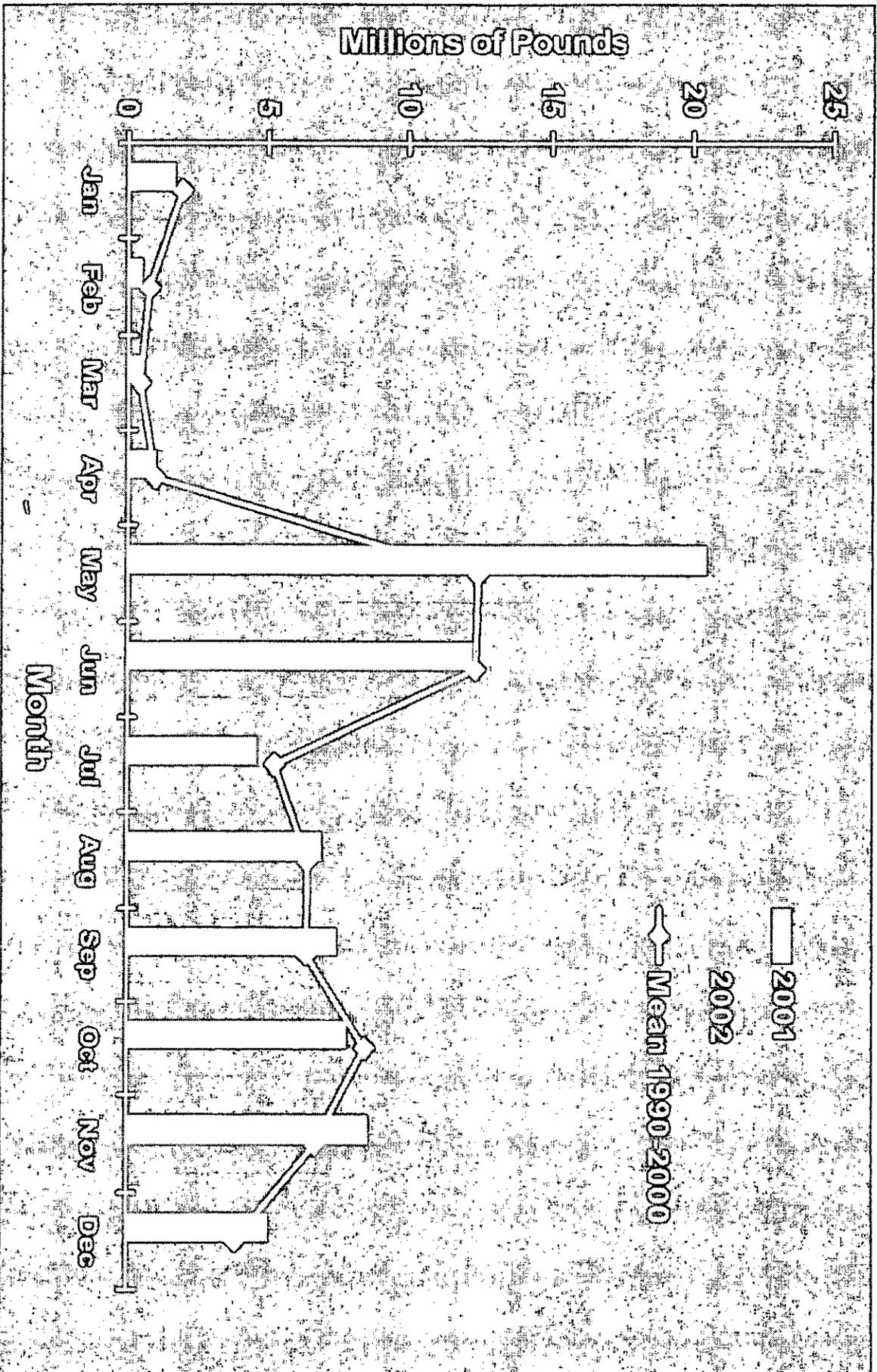
ANNUAL LOUISIANA SHRIMP CATCH VERSUS LANDINGS

(All Species Combined/Heads-Off Weight)



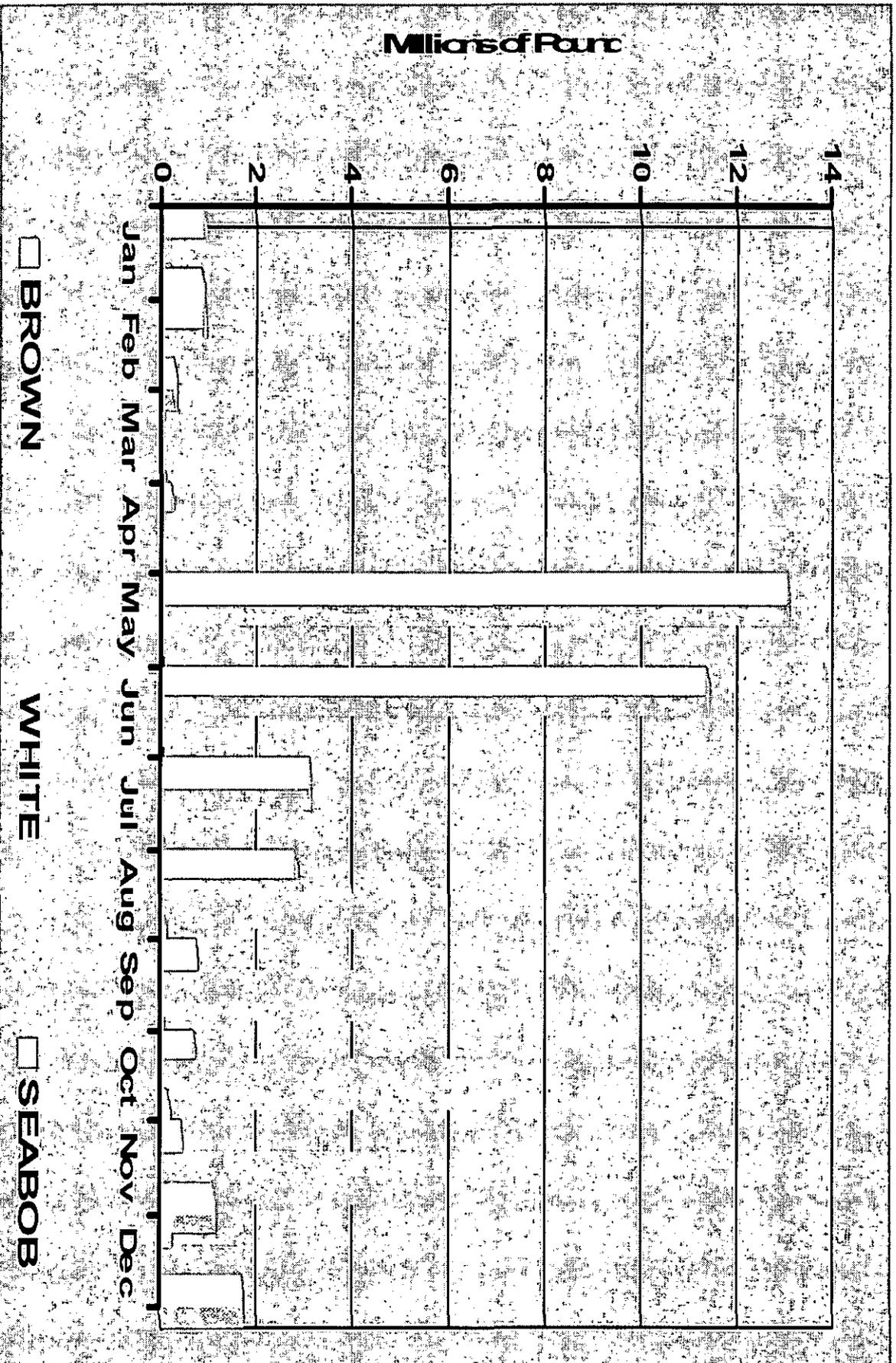
LOUISIANA MONTHLY SHRIMP LANDINGS

(All Species Combined/Heads-Off Weight)



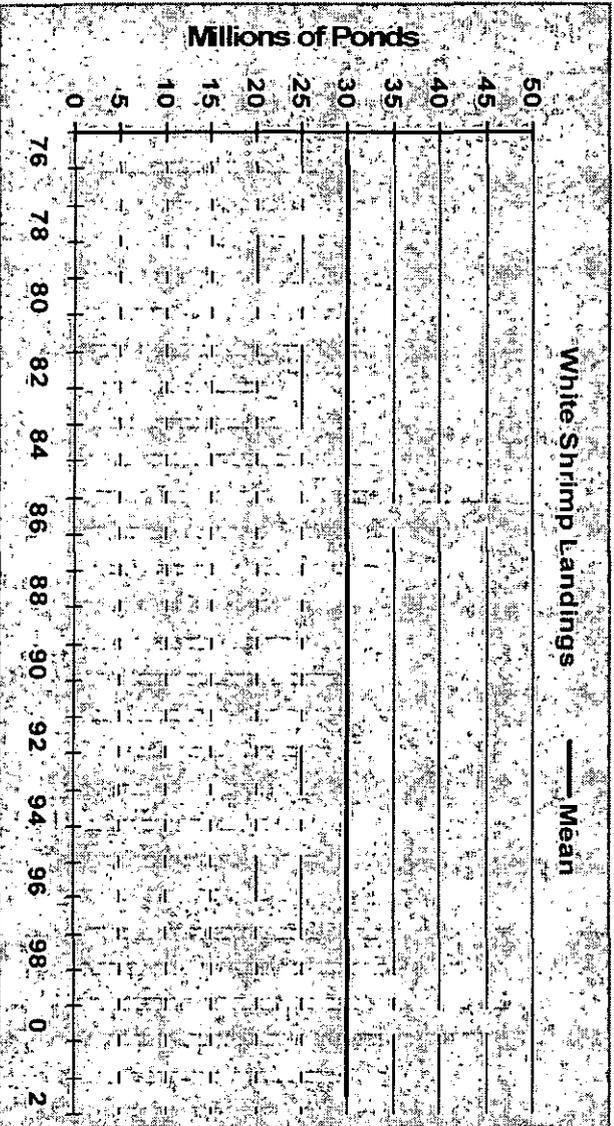
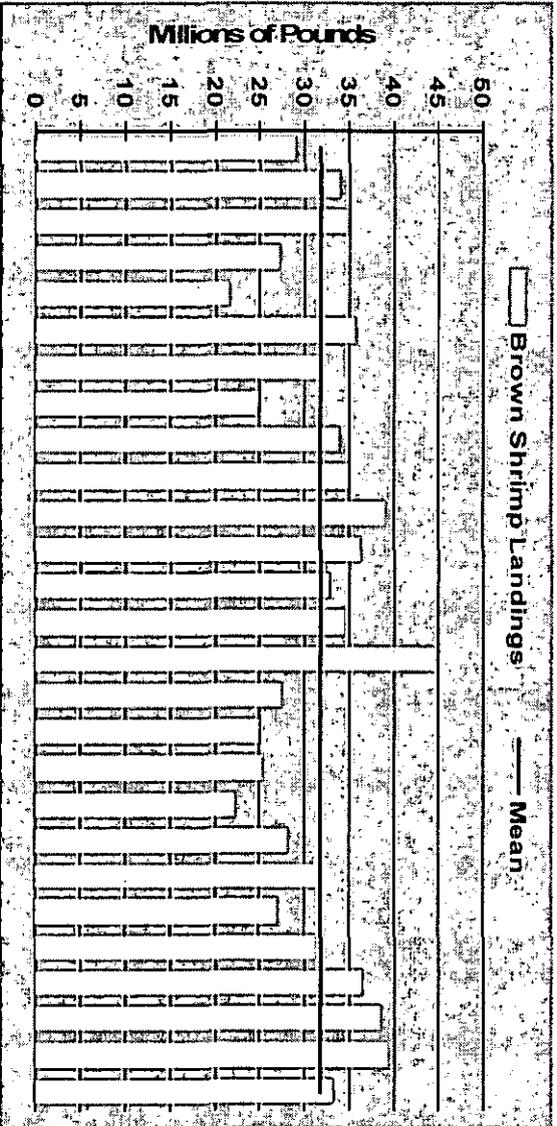
LOUISIANA 2002 SHRIMP LANDINGS

(Heads-Off Weight)

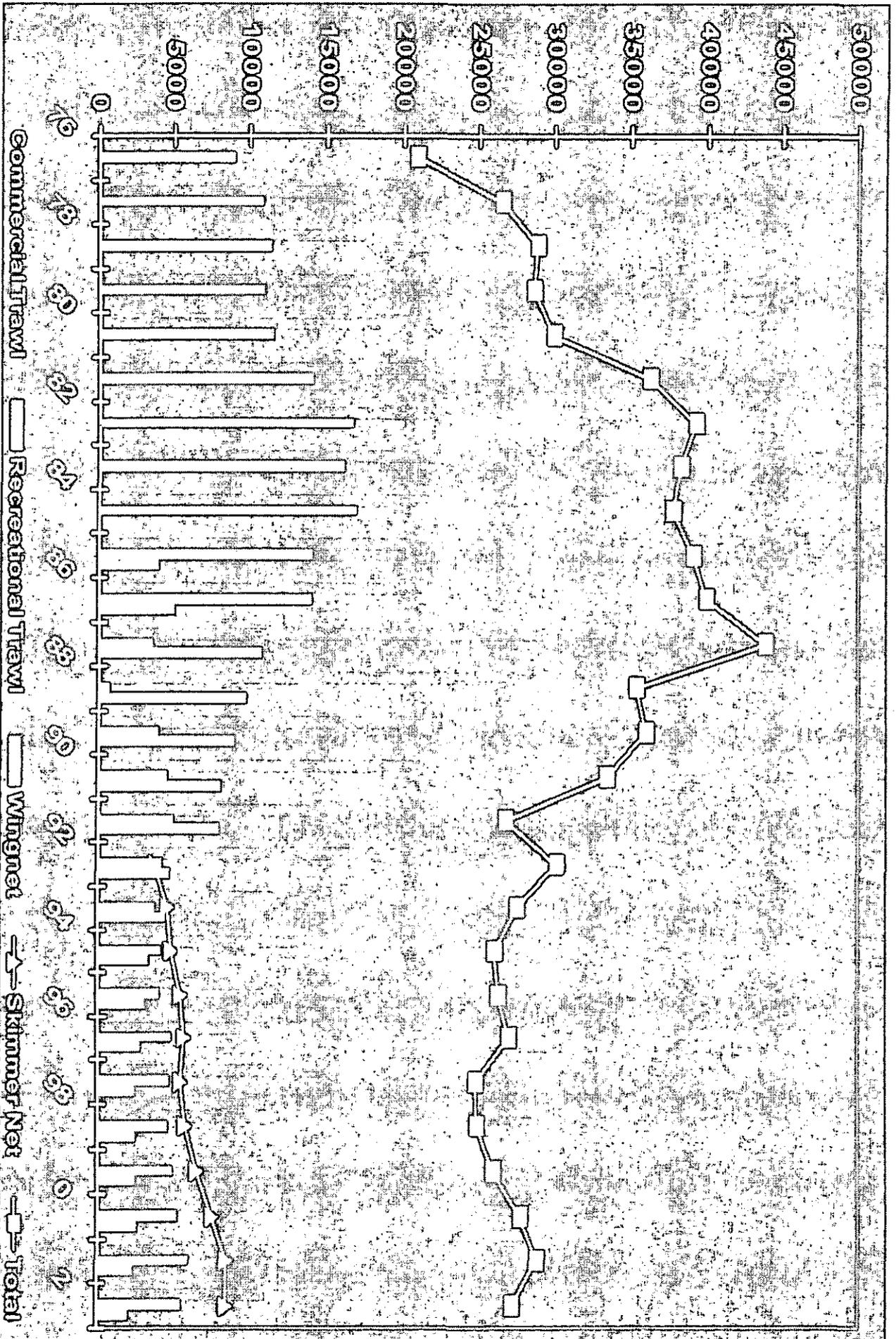


Source: NMFS

ANNUAL LOUISIANA SHRIMP LANDINGS (Heads-Off Weight)

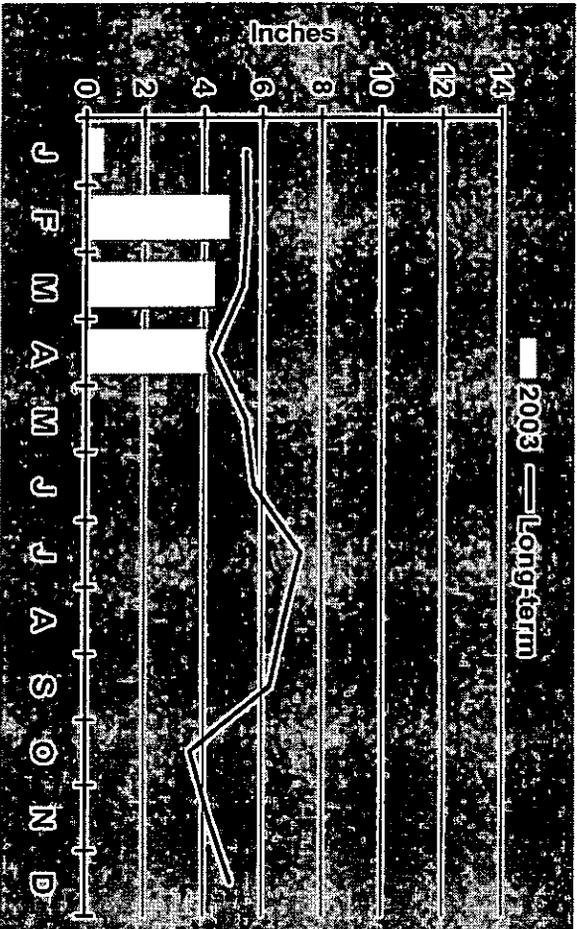
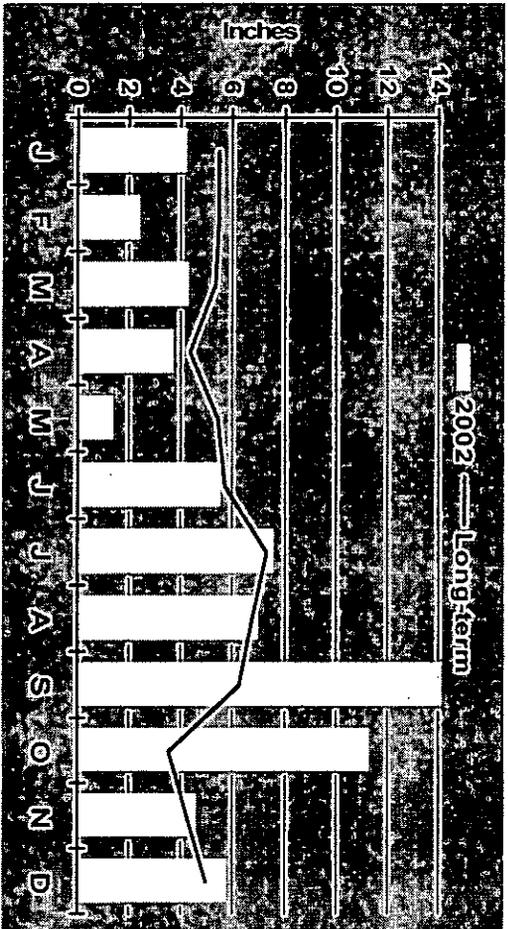


ANNUAL LOUISIANA SHRIMP GEAR LICENSE SALES



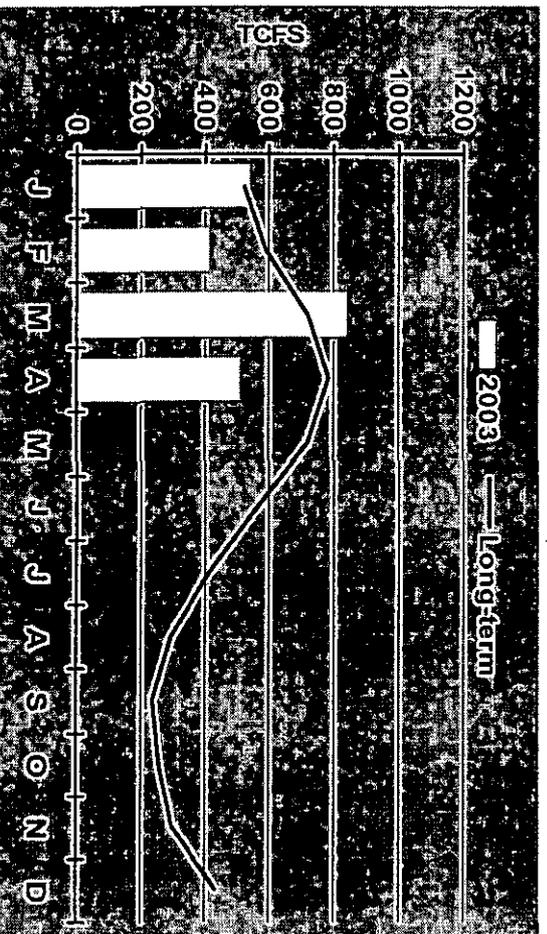
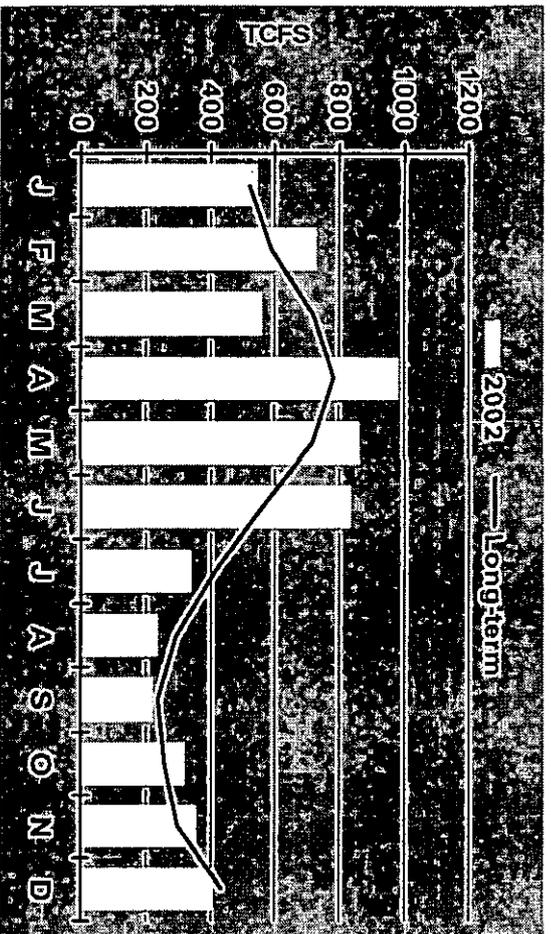
Source: LDWF

MONTHLY SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA RAINFALL



Source: Louisiana State Office of Climatology and NOAA

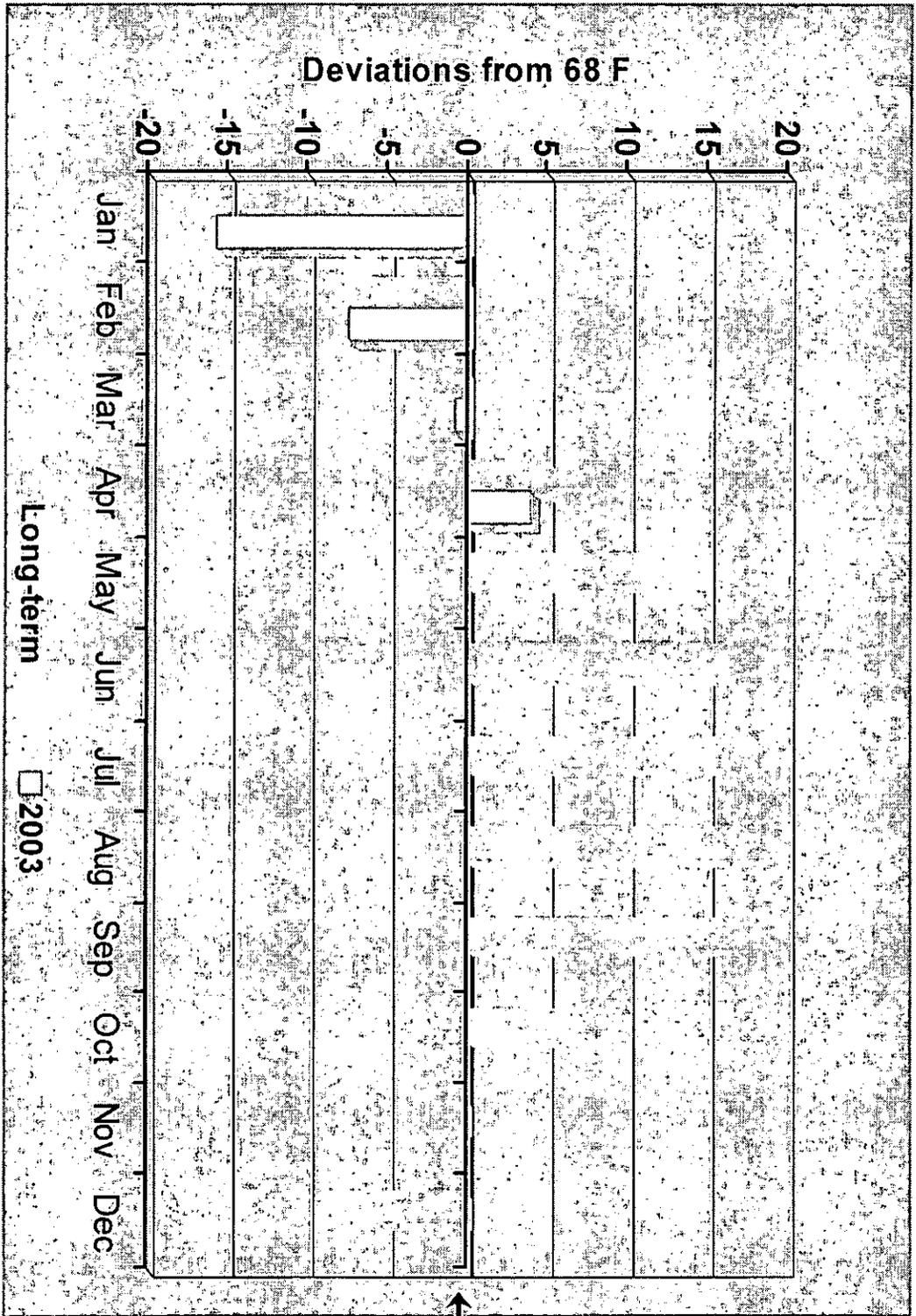
MONTHLY MISSISSIPPI RIVER DISCHARGE



Source: U. S. Corps of Engineers, New Orleans

SOUTH BARATARIA BAY MONTHLY WATER TEMPERATURE

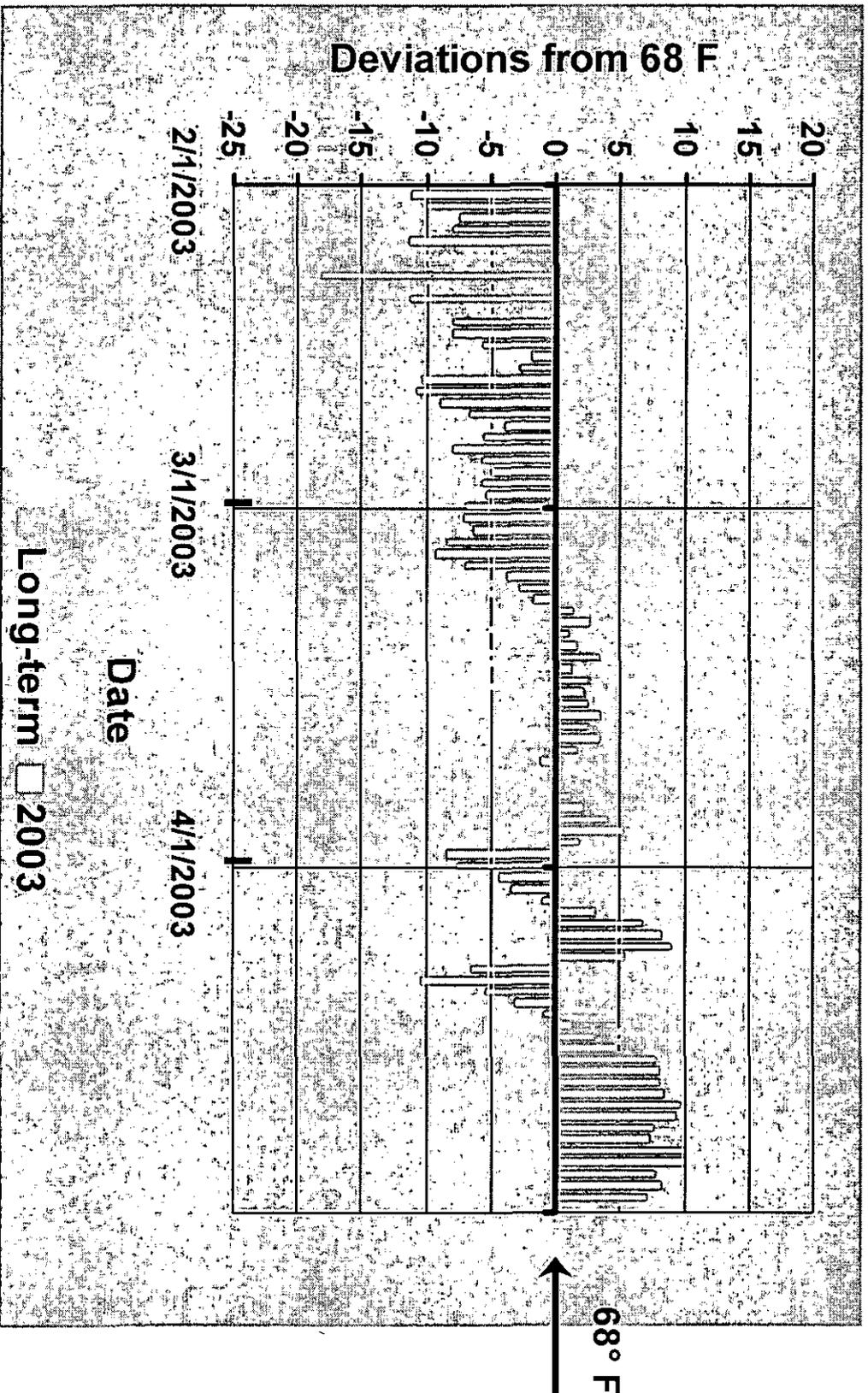
(Deviations from 68° F)



Source: LDWF and USGS

SOUTH BARATARIA BAY DAILY WATER TEMPERATURE DEVIATIONS

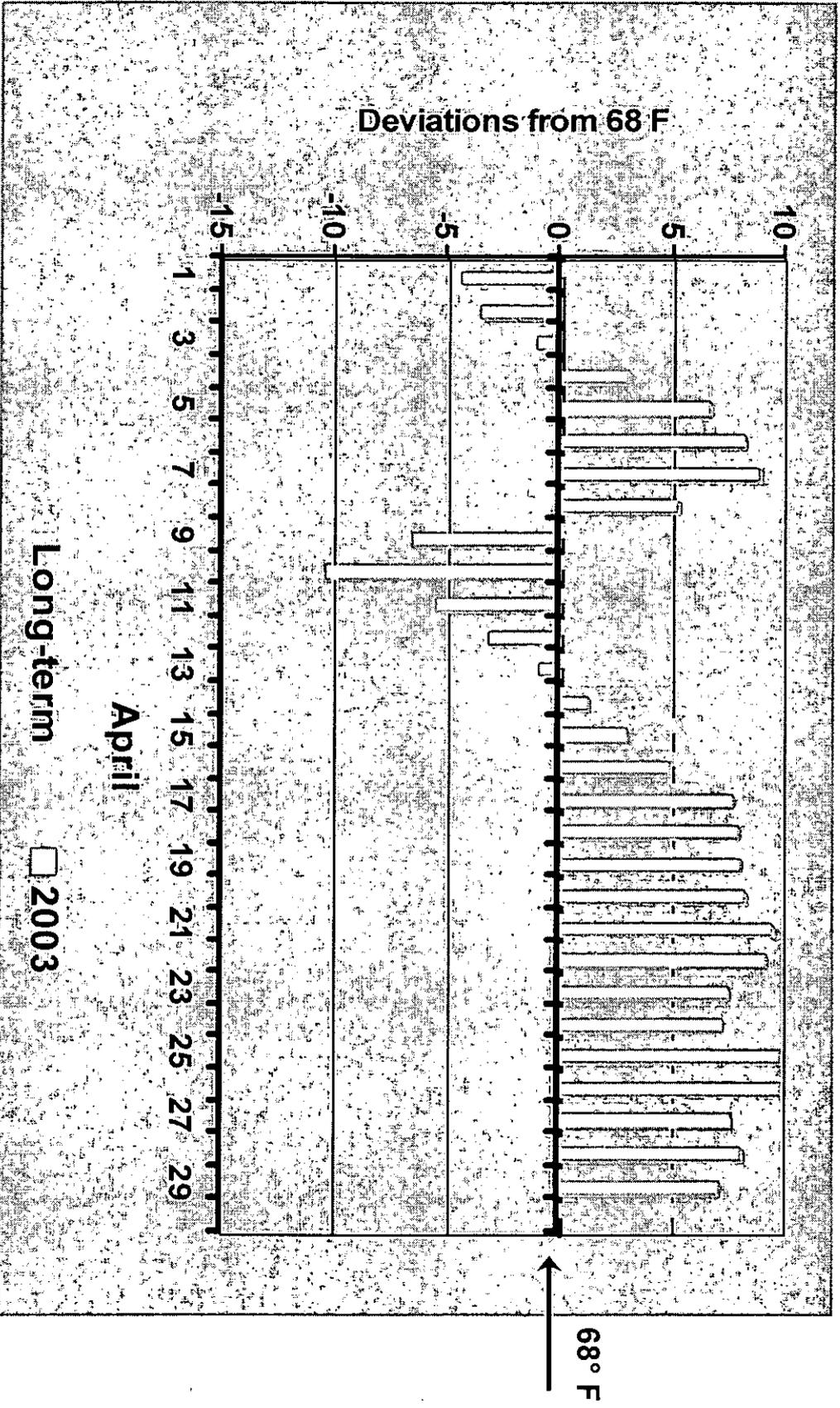
FEBRUARY - APRIL, 2003



Source: LDWF and USGS

SOUTH BARATARIA BAY APRIL DAILY WATER TEMPERATURE

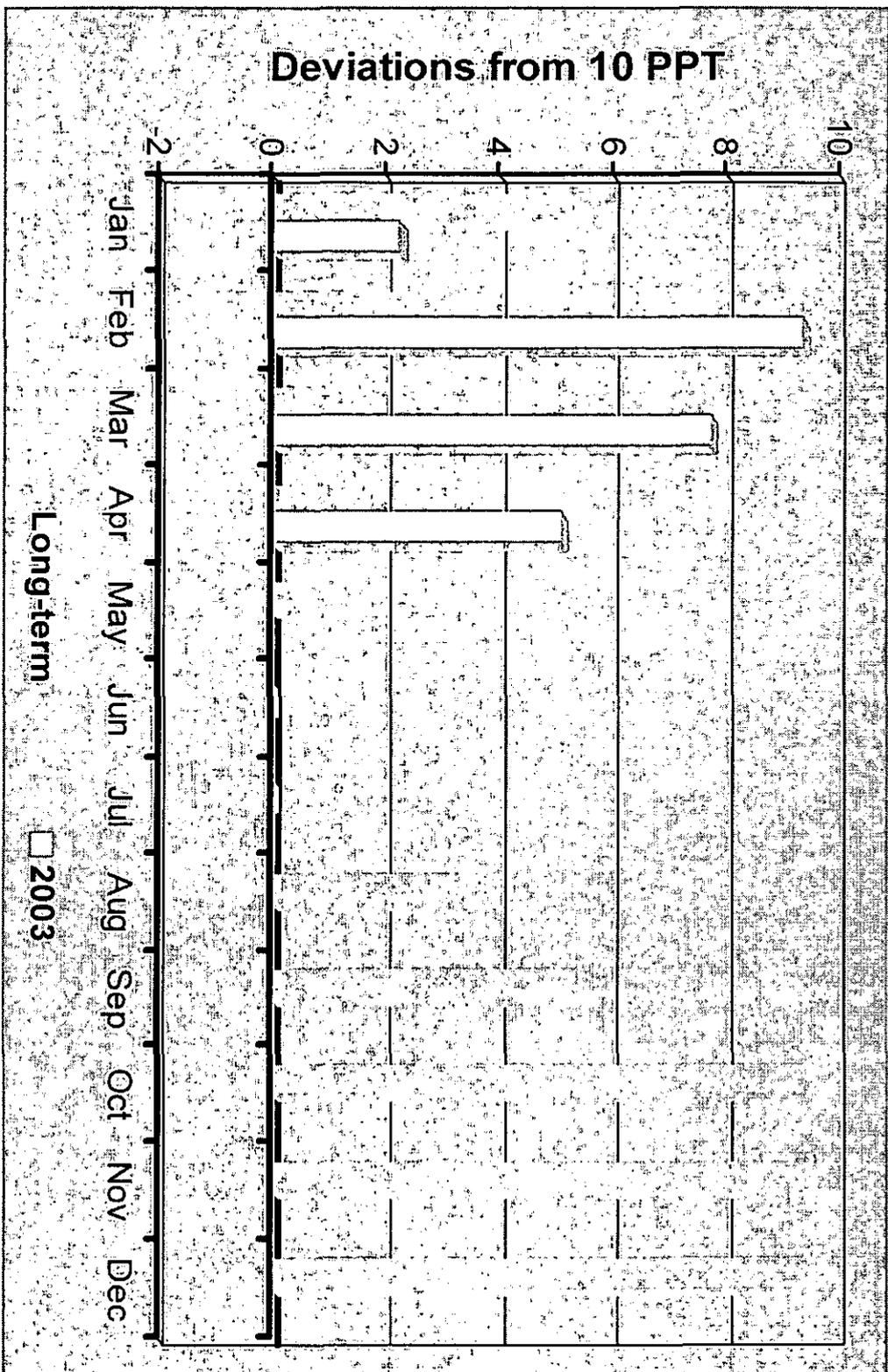
(Deviations from 68° F)



Source: LDWF and USGS

NORTH BARATARIA BAY MONTHLY SALINITY

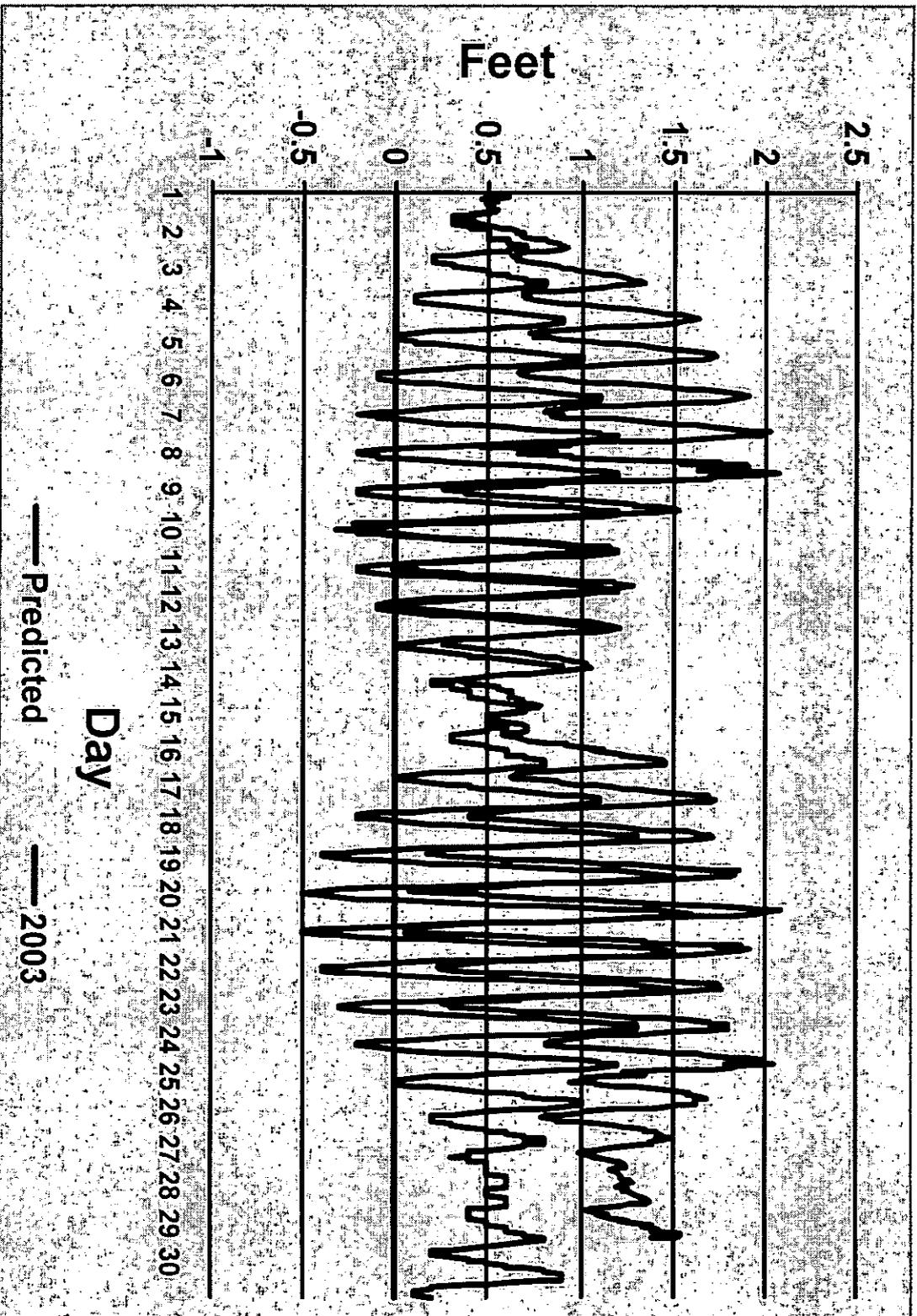
(Deviations from 10 PPT)



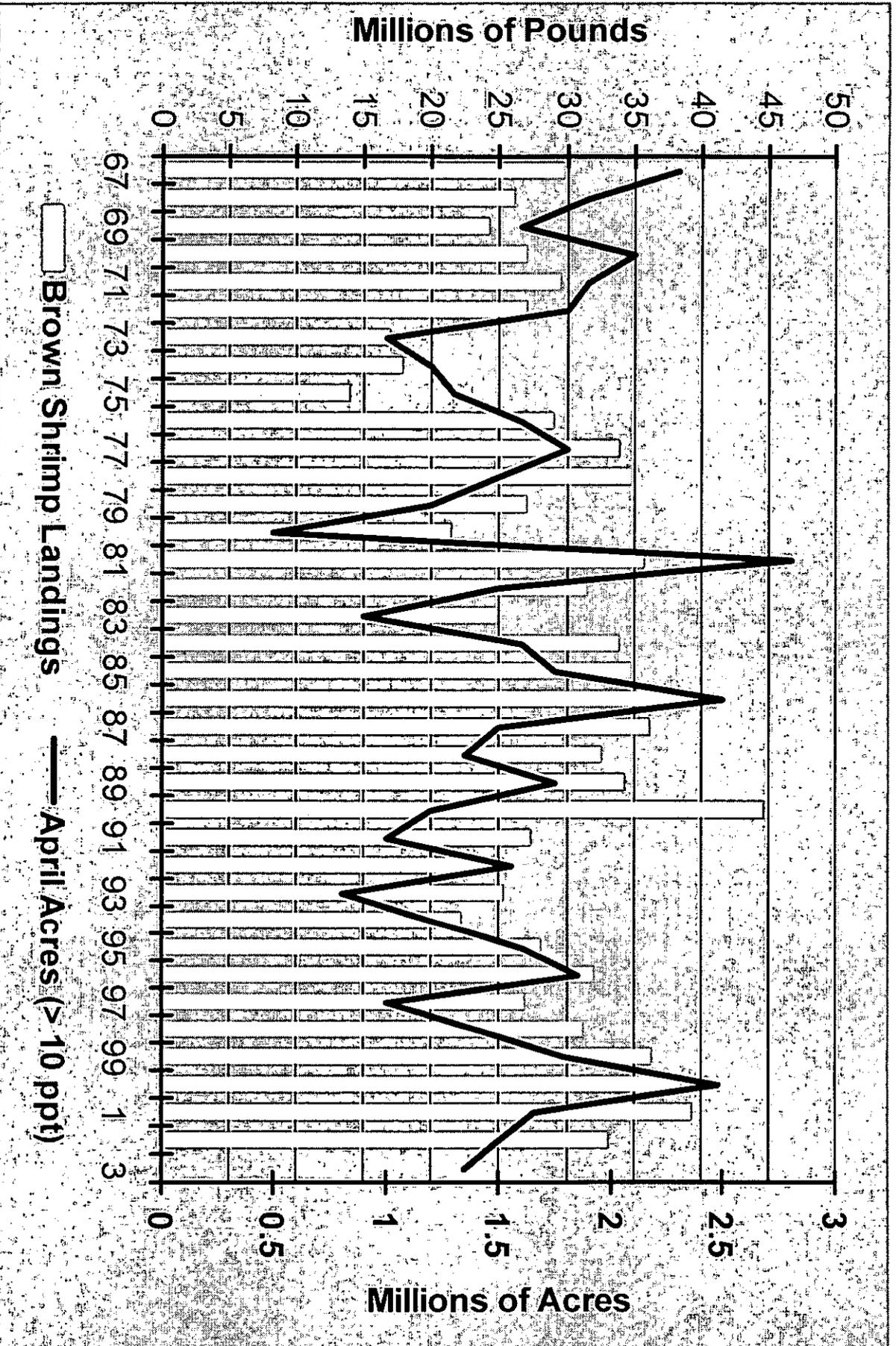
10 PPT

APRIL 2003 TIDAL RANGE

Barataria Pass, Louisiana



APRIL ACREAGE GREATER THAN 10 PPT



Source: LDWF and NMFS

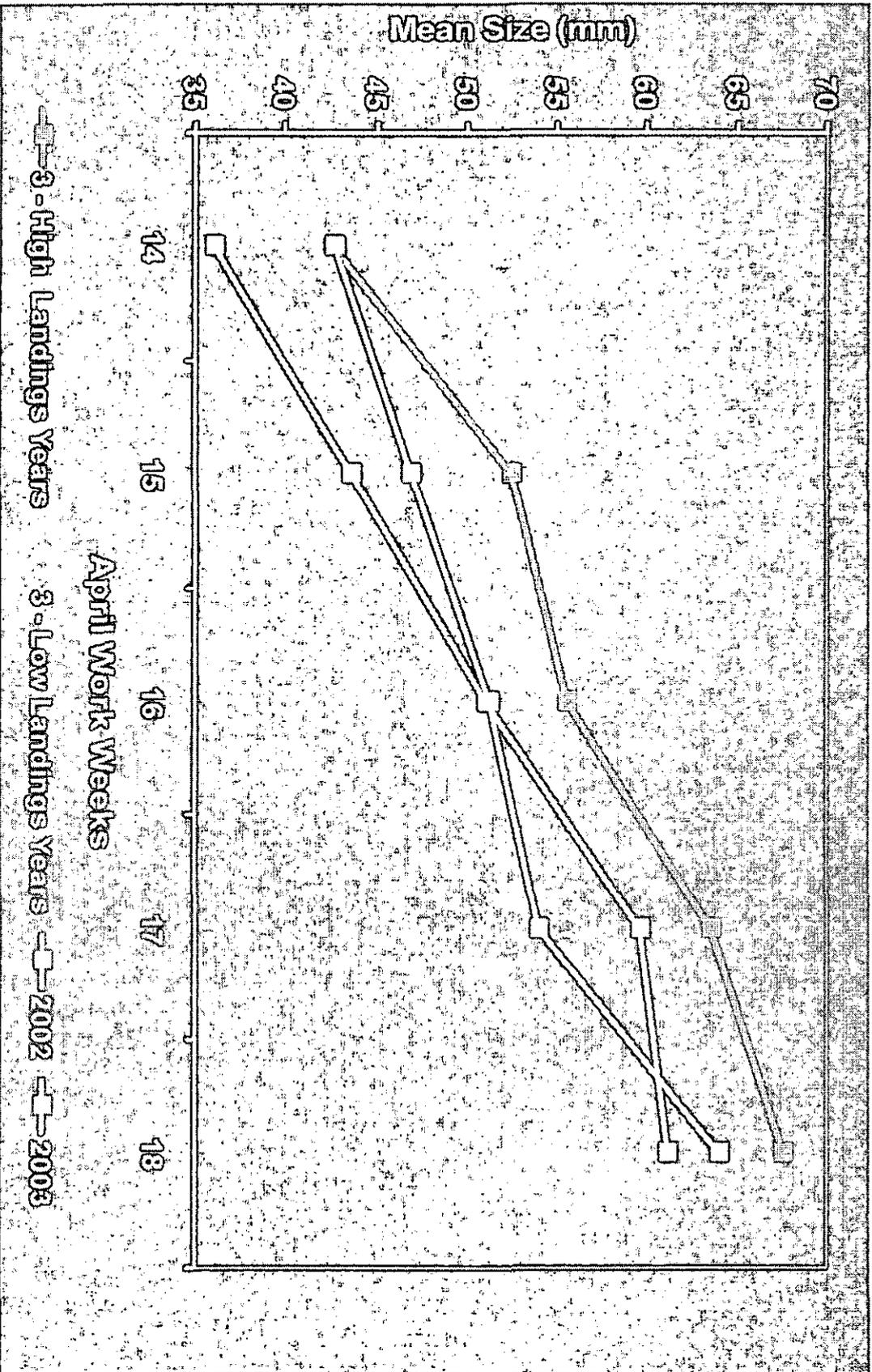
BROWN SHRIMP CATCH PER EFFORT IN 6' TRAWL SAMPLES

Barataria Bay



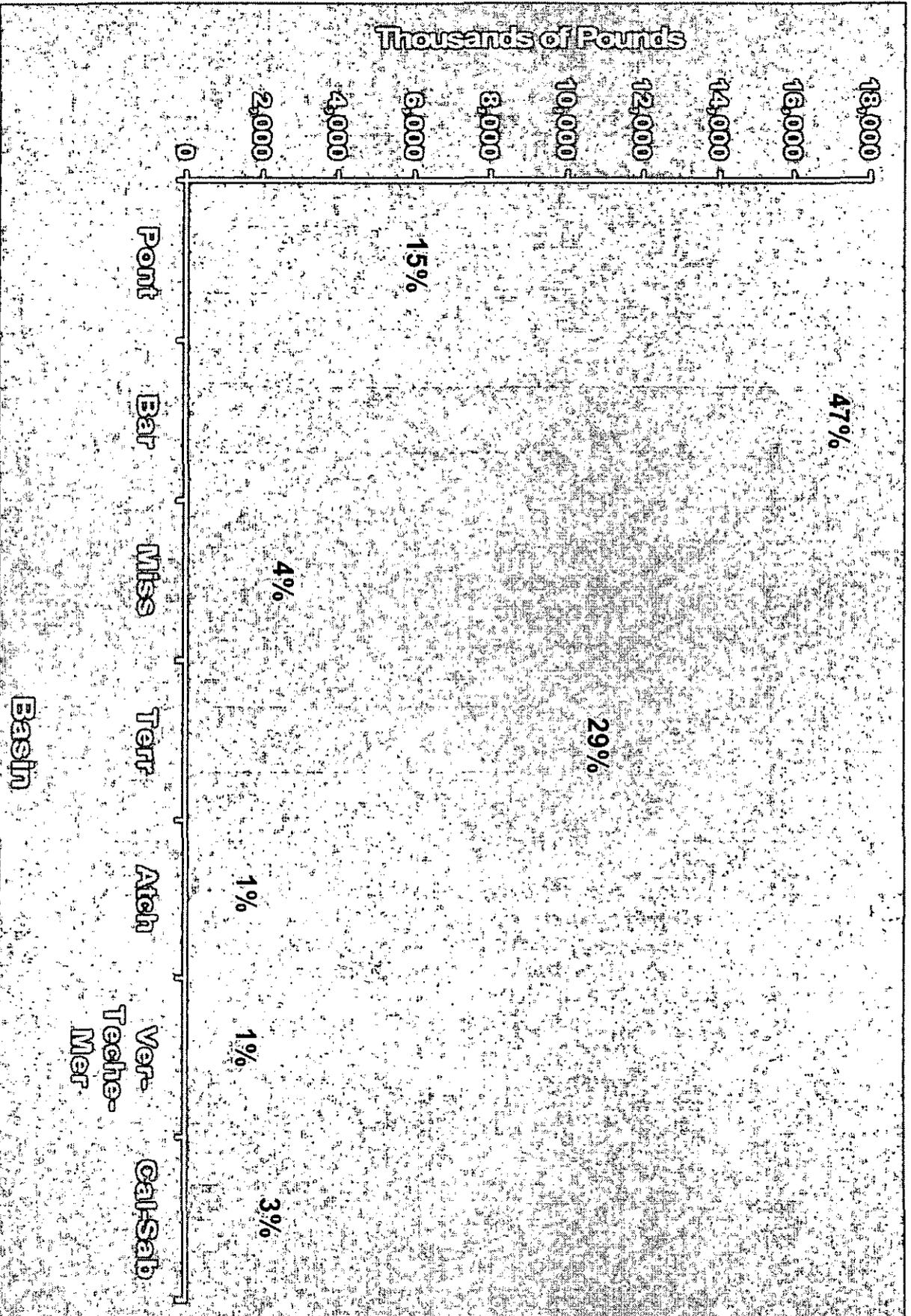
BROWN SHRIMP MEAN SIZE IN 6' TRAWL SAMPLES

Barataria Bay



Source: LDWF

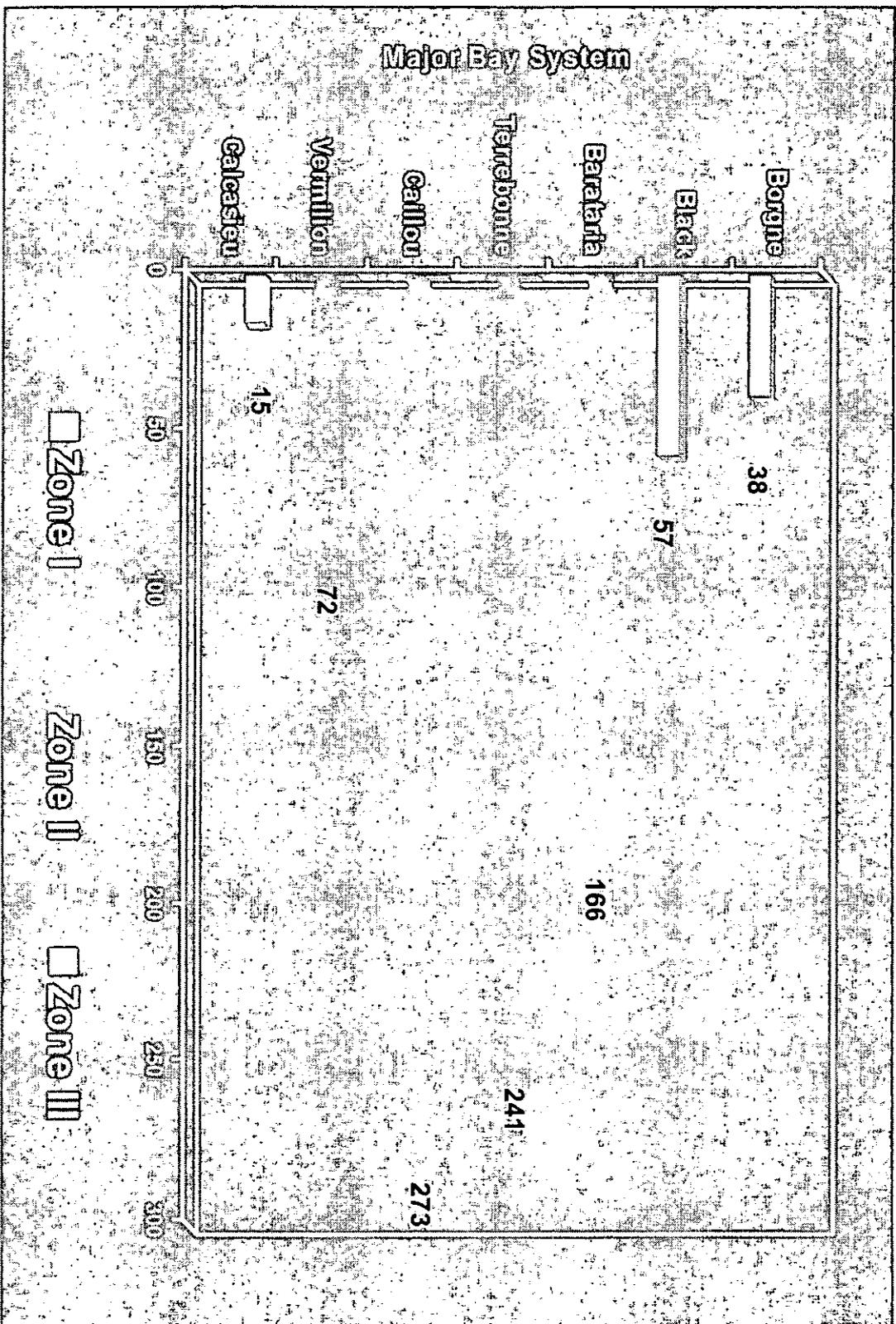
2002 LOUISIANA BROWN SHRIMP CATCH BY BASIN



Source: LDWF

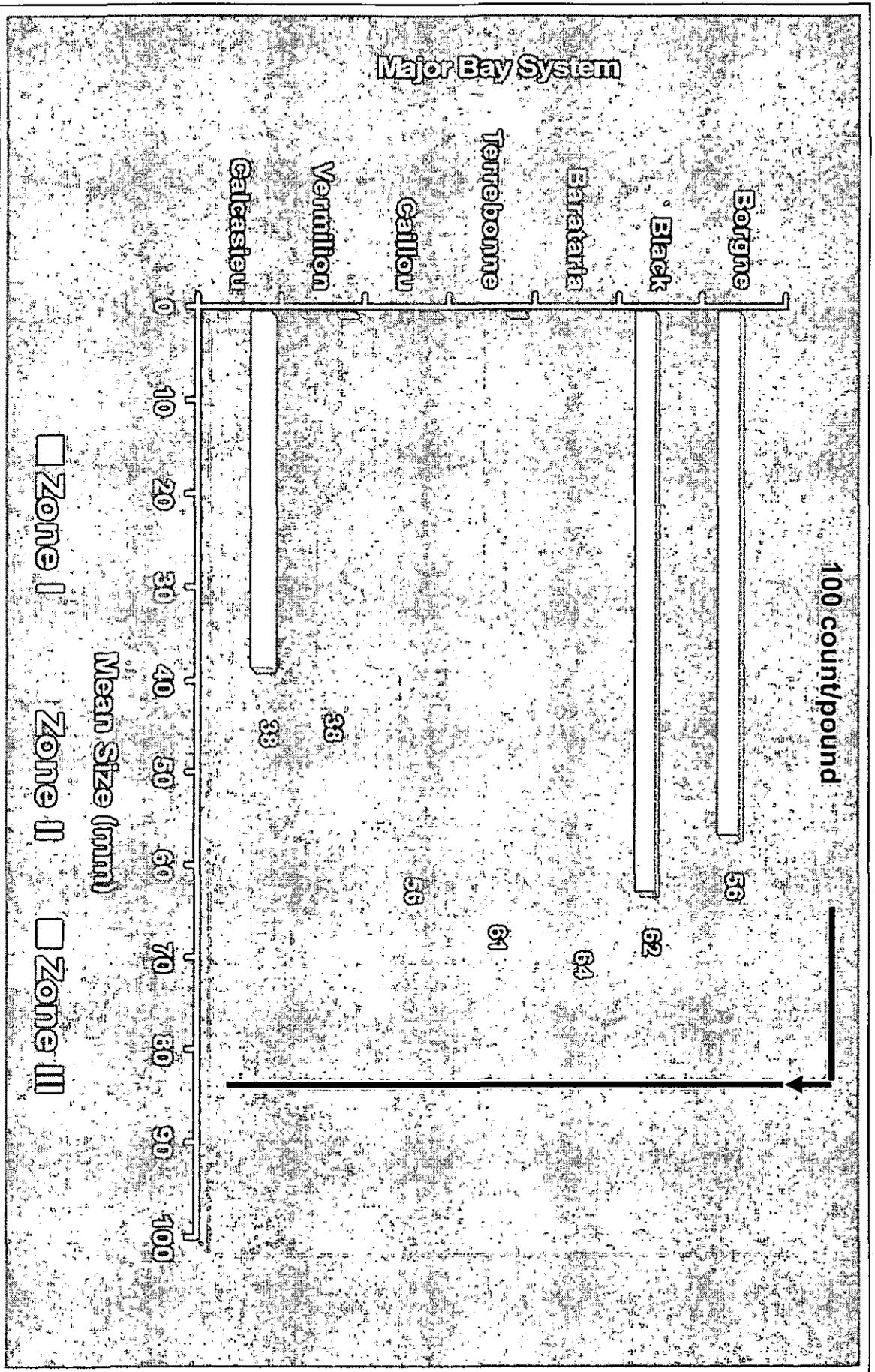
BROWN SHRIMP CATCH PER EFFORT IN 6' TRAWL SAMPLES

WEEK 18, 2003



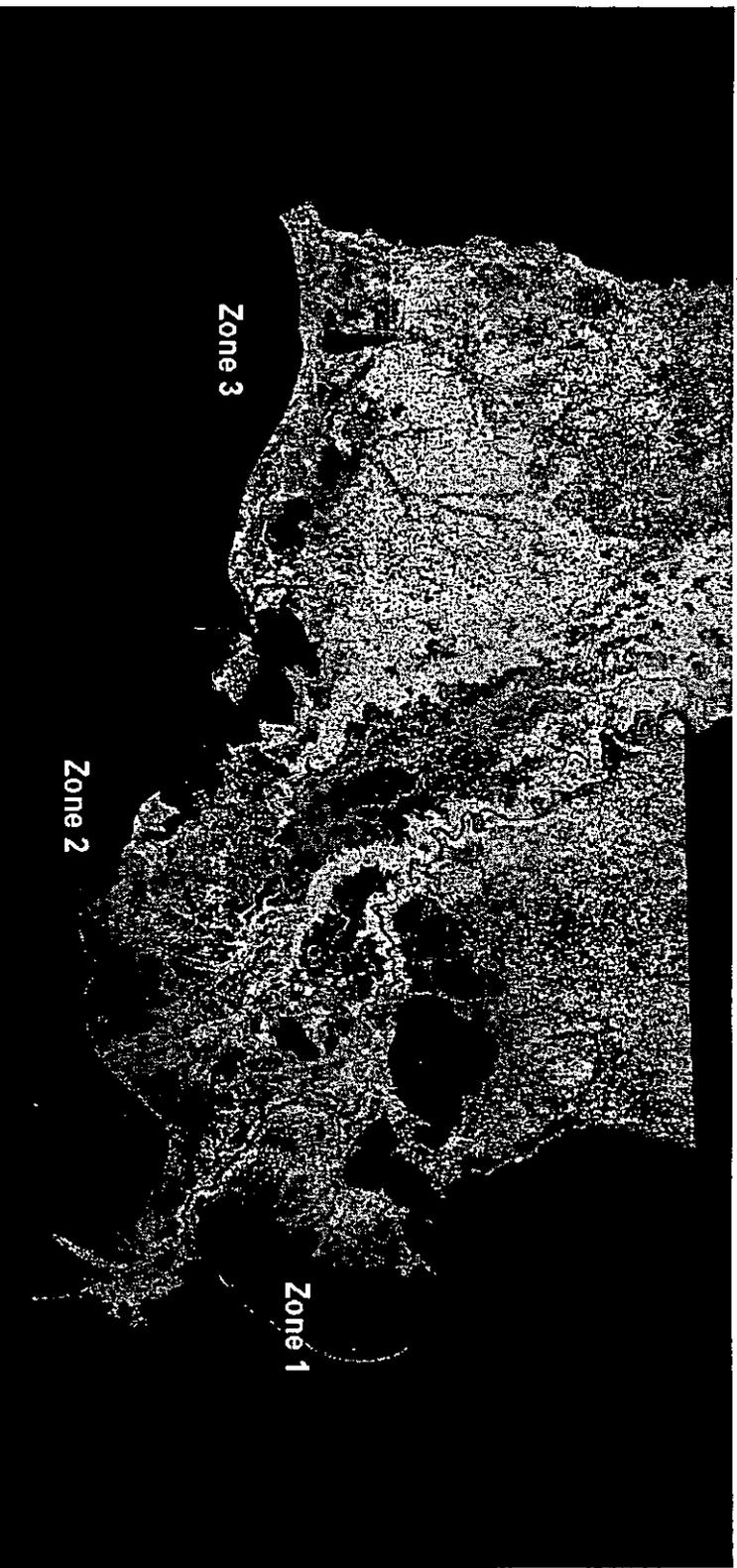
BROWN SHRIMP MEAN SIZE IN 6' TRAWL SAMPLES

WEEK 18, 2003



Source: LDWF

LOUISIANA SHRIMP MANAGEMENT ZONES



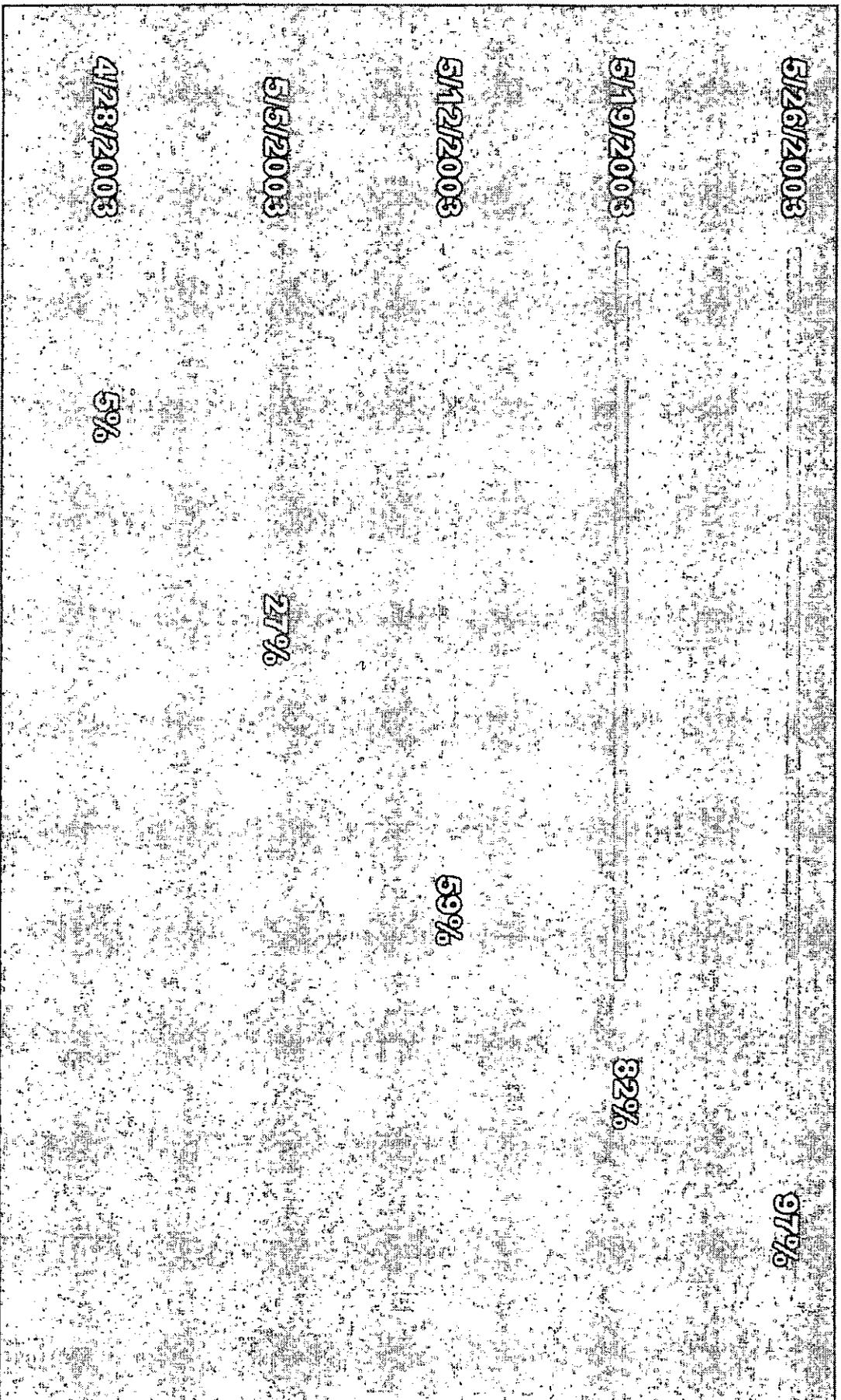
Zone 1 Mississippi state line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River.

Zone 2 Eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island.

Zone 3 Western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Texas state line.

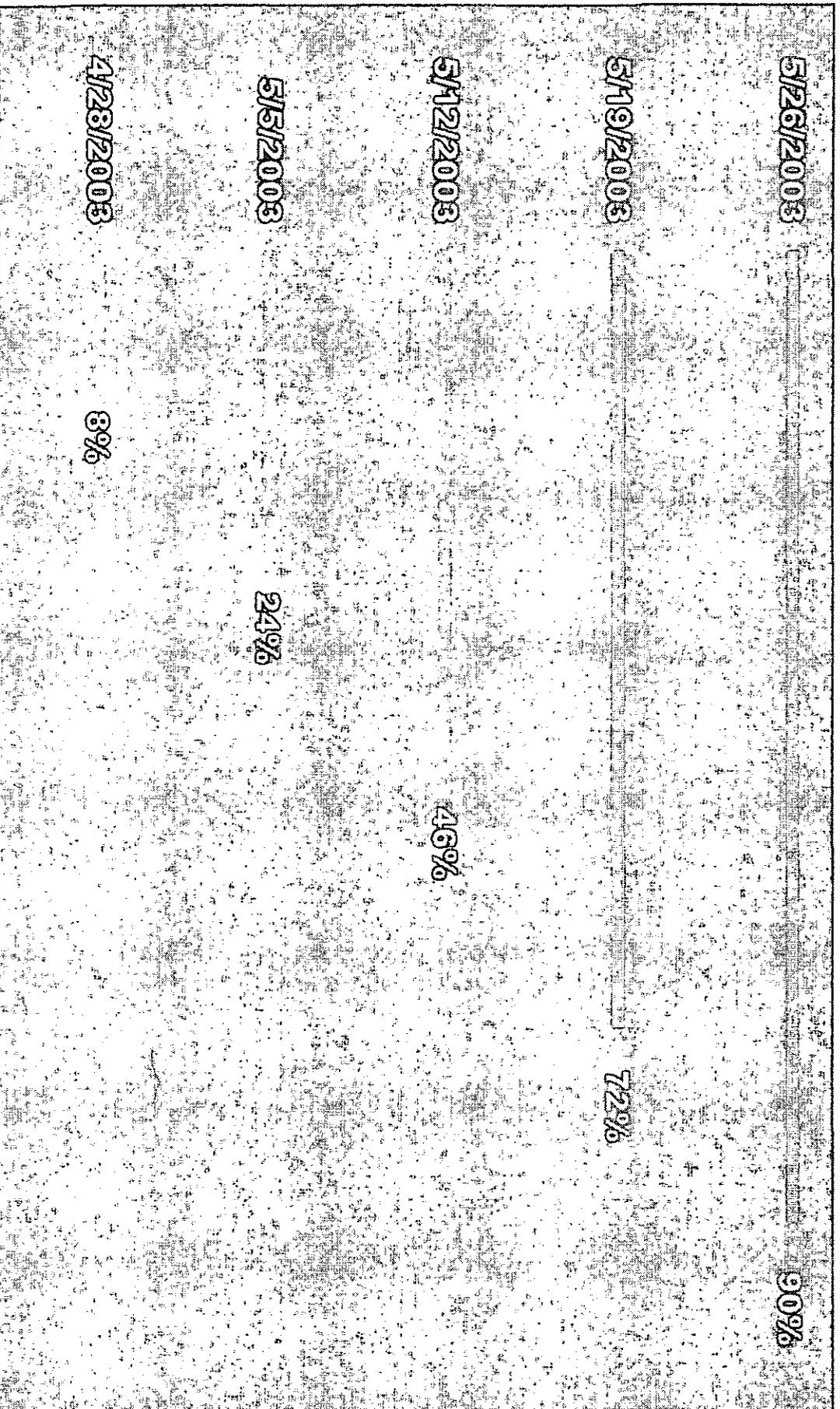
SHRIMP MANAGEMENT ZONE I 2003 PROJECTIONS

Percentage > 100 count/pound



SHRIMP MANAGEMENT ZONE II 2003 PROJECTIONS

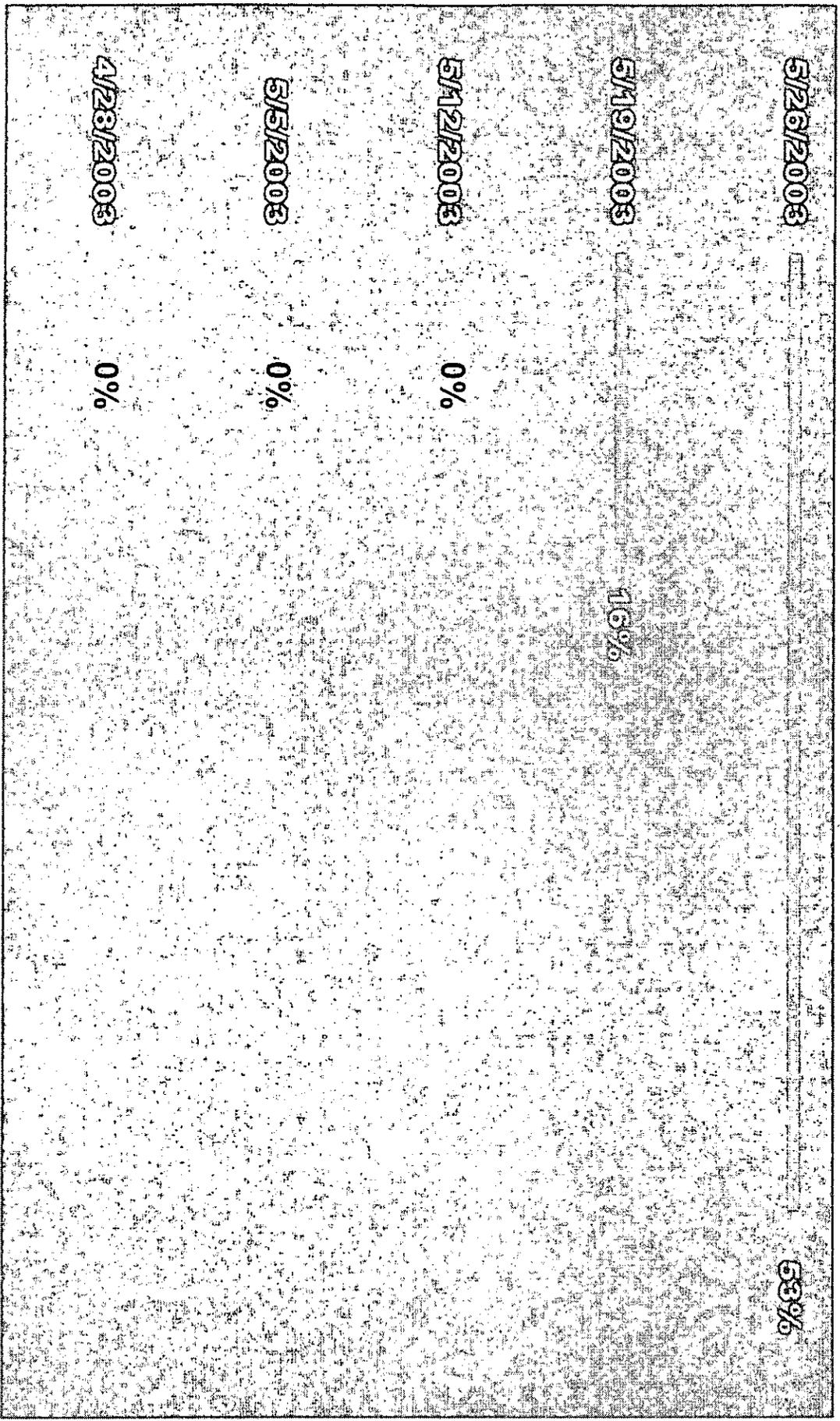
Percentage > 100 count/pound



Source: LDWF

SHRIMP MANAGEMENT ZONE III 2003 PROJECTIONS

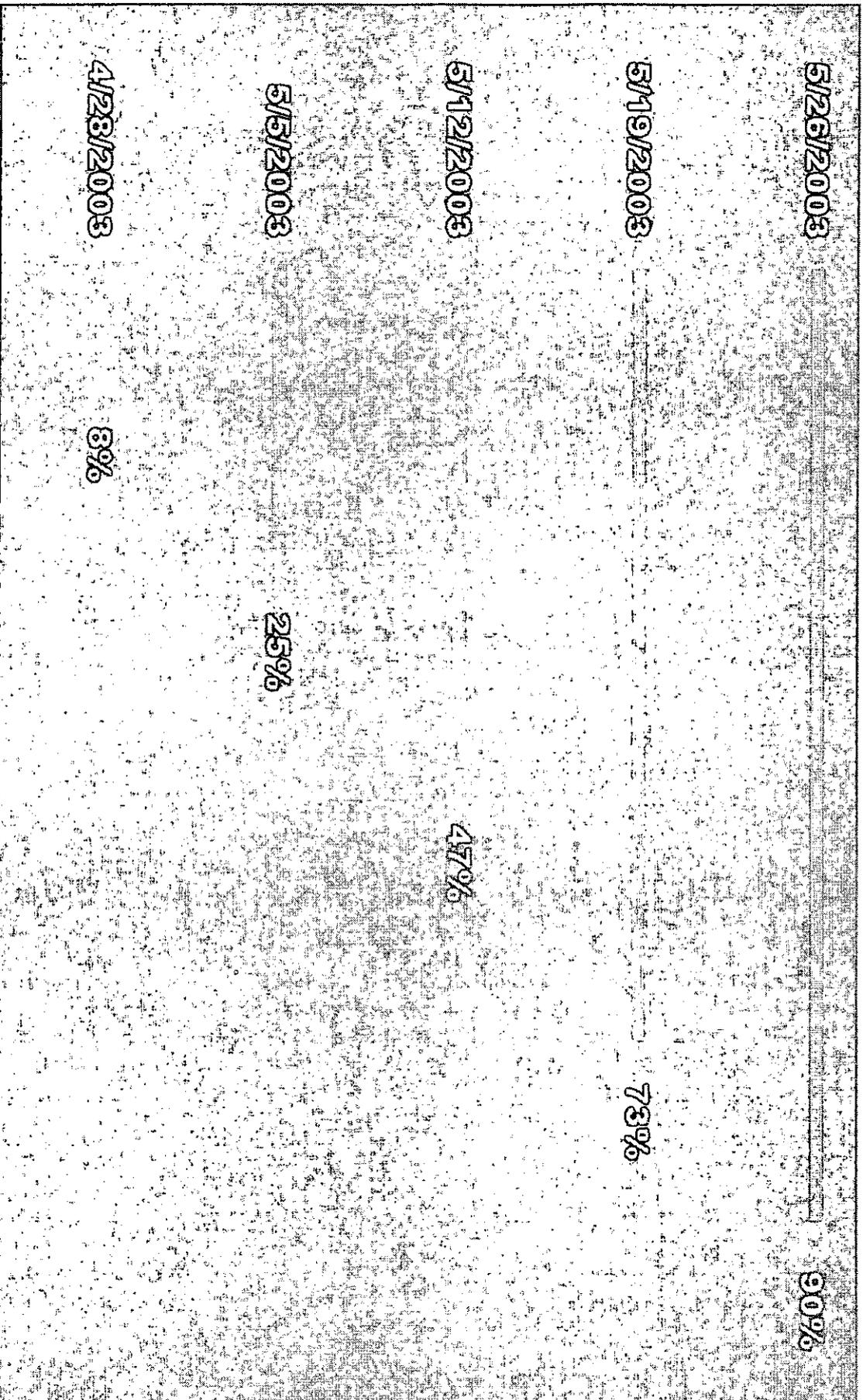
Percentage > 100 count/pound



Source: LDWF

STATEWIDE 2003 PROJECTIONS

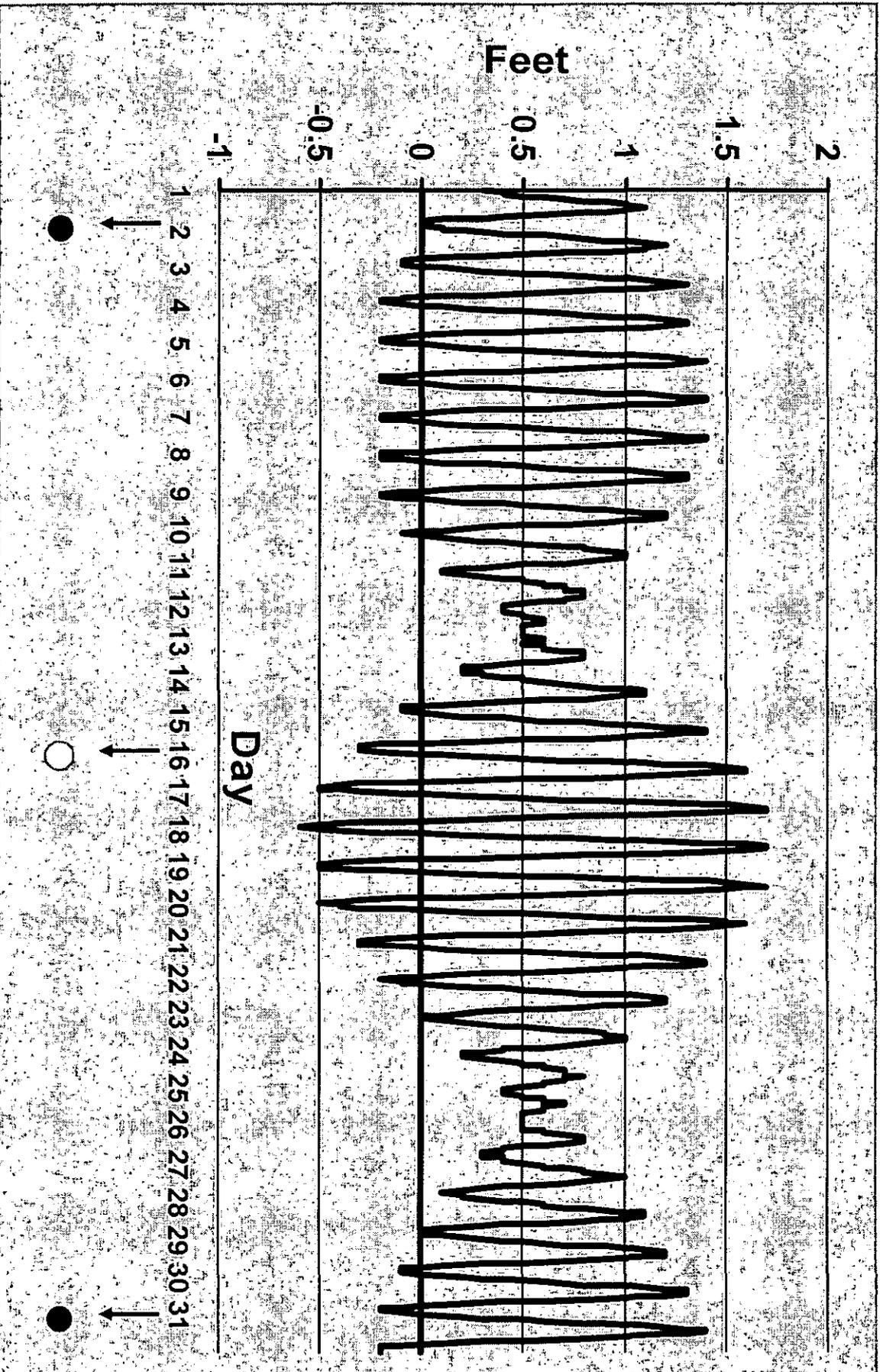
Percentage > 100 count/pound



Source: LDWF

PREDICTED MAY 2003 TIDAL RANGE

Barataria Pass, Louisiana



Source: Nautical Software

RESOLUTION
2003 Spring Shrimp Season Opening
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
May 1, 2003

WHEREAS, the traditional management criteria used by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in recommending the opening dates for the spring shrimp season in inside waters are based on the population of brown shrimp in each shrimp management zone reaching such a size that 50% or more of the brown shrimp are 100 count per pound or larger, and

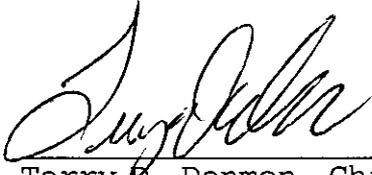
WHEREAS, current biological data project that 50% of the 2003 brown shrimp crop in inside waters will meet the 100 count per pound management criteria in Shrimp Management Zone 1 by May 10, 2003, in Shrimp Management Zone 2 by May 13, 2003 and in Shrimp Management Zone 3 by May 26, 2003, and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2003 the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission had closed to shrimping that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495, from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to the eastern shore of Freshwater Bayou.

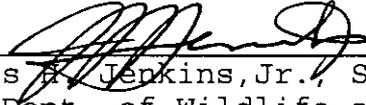
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby opens the spring shrimp season in inside waters in Shrimp Management Zone 1 at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003, except the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which shall open at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003, in Zone 2 and that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495 from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to the eastern shore of Freshwater Bayou at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003 and in Zone 3 at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close any portion of Louisiana's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicate the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.



Terry B. Denmon, Chairman
La. Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission



James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
La. Dept. of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all or part of inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season in Louisiana state waters to open as follows:

Shrimp Management Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the Mississippi State line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, to open at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003, except the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which shall open at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003, and

Shrimp Management Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, as well as that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495 from the Atchafalaya River Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to Freshwater Bayou, all to open at 6 a.m. May 13, 2003, and

Shrimp Management Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m. May 26, 2003.

The Commission also hereby grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close any portion of the State's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

Terry D. Denmon

Chairman

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Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
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The Commission also hereby grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close any portion of the State's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

Terry D. Denmon

Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of intent to enact regulations governing the Rules of the Road for boating safety in the State of Louisiana (LAC 76:X1.301).

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XI. Boating

Chapter 3. Boating Safety

§301. Rules of the Road for Vessels

A. The following regulations shall dictate the operation of vessels upon the waters of the state and shall set forth a standard of operation. In construing and complying with these Rules, due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the vessels involved, which may make a departure from the Rules necessary to avoid immediate danger.

B. Any violation of the Rules of the Road as referred to in this section shall be prima-facie evidence of careless or reckless operation.

C. Boating accidents caused by deviation from the Rules of the Road shall be documented as such in accident reports.

D. The Rules of the Road for vessels upon the waters in the state shall be as follows:

1. Vessels passing head-on shall each keep to their respective right.

2. A vessel overtaking another vessel may do so on either side, but must grant the right-of-way to the vessel being overtaken.

3. When vessels are passing at right angles, the vessel on the left will yield right-of-way to vessel on the right.

4. Motorboats shall yield right-of-way to non-motor powered boats except as follows:

a. When being overtaken by non-powered vessels.

b. For deep draft vessels that have to remain in narrow channels.

c. When vessel is towing another vessel.

5. Motorboats must maintain a direct course when passing sailboats.

6. A vessel approaching a landing dock or pier shall yield the right-of-way to any departing vessel.

7. A vessel departing shoreline or tributary shall yield right-of-way to through traffic and vessels approaching shoreline or tributary.

8. Vessels will not abruptly change course without first determining that it can be safely done without risk of collision with another vessel.

9. If an operator fails to fully comprehend the course of an approaching vessel he must slow down immediately to a speed

barely sufficient for steerageway until the other vessel has passed.

10. Vessels yielding right-of-way shall reduce speed, stop, reverse, or alter course to avoid collision. Vessel with right-of-way shall hold course and speed. If there is danger of collision, all vessels will slow down, stop, or reverse until danger is averted.

11. Vessels will issue warning signals in fog or weather conditions that restrict visibility.

12. No mechanically propelled vessel shall be operated so as to traverse a course around any other vessel underway or any person swimming.

13. In a narrow channel, vessels will keep to the right of mid-channel.

14. Vessels approaching or passing another vessel shall be operated in such manner and at such a rate of speed as will not create a hazardous wash or wake.

15. No vessel shall obstruct or interfere with take-off, landing, or taxiing of aircraft.

16. All vessels shall be operated at reasonable speeds for given conditions and situations and must be under the complete control of the operator at all times.

17. No person shall, under any circumstances, operate a vessel in excess of an established speed or wake zone.

18. No vessel or person shall obstruct or block a

navigation channel, entrance to channel, mooring slip, landing dock, launching ramp, pier or tributary.

19. Vessels shall keep at least 100 feet clearance of displayed diver's flag.

20. Operator shall maintain a proper lookout.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 34:851.27A

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 29: .

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

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Lt. Colonel Charlie Clark, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Law Enforcement Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, July 3, 2003.

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).

Terry D. Denmon

Chairman

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS, sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS, the estimated 970,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of \$703 million annually, and

WHEREAS, Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS, Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

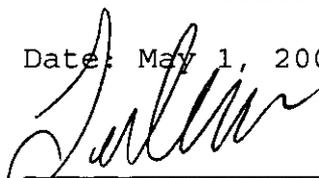
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 2-8, 2003 as

FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June 7 & 8, 2003 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Date: May 1, 2003



Terry D. Denmon
Chairman



Lee Felterman
Vice-Chairman



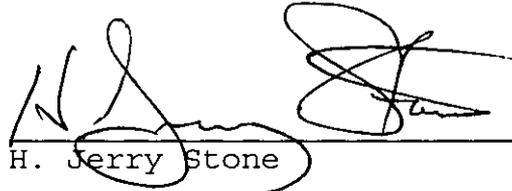
Henry Mouton



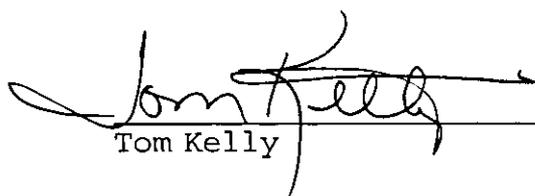
Bill Busbice



Wayne Sagera



H. Jerry Stone



Tom Kelly



James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

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Date: May 1, 2003

Terry D. Denmon
Chairman

Lee Felterman
Vice-Chairman

Henry Mouton

Bill Busbice

Wayne Sagerera

H. Jerry Stone

Tom Kelly

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

Changes made by
Jimmy Anthony - 4/25/2003
sch

RESOLUTION

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FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June ~~7 & 8, 2002~~ ^{7 & 8, 2003} are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Date: April 4, 2002

~~Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.~~
Chairman

~~Terry Denmon Lee Felterman~~
Vice-Chairman

~~Lee Felterman Henry Mouton~~

Bill Busbice

Wayne Sagrera

H. Jerry Stone

Tom Kelly

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

Hawkins, Susan

From: Gresham, Thomas
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2003 10:44 AM
To: Hawkins, Susan
Subject: FW: Pass A Loutre WMA

From: Bobby Johnson
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2003 9:42 AM
To: gresham_tp@wlf.state.la.us
Subject: Pass A Loutre WMA

To Whom it may concern,

I would like to address my concern over the proposal to change the hunting hours on the Pass a Loutre WMA.

The hours of hunting should not be changed on this WMA. The state has many different and diverse WMA's. Since these WMA's are so different how can the commission expect one set of rules to meet the needs of all the WMA's.

PAL WMA area is unique and isolated WMA that should have its own rules. Most of the hunts I make on this management area are from noon till 4:00 o'clock. We then pickup and make the run back to Venice before it gets dark due to the dangers of the Mississippi river. Changing the hours on this WMA would make it inaccessible to me and other hunters who cannot make the morning hunt.

Please consider these things before making the decision that one protocol should apply to every WMA when every WMA is different.

Thanks,

Bobby Johnson, CPA
Corporate Business Manager
Emeril's Homebase LLC
Phone: (504) 524-4241
Fax: (504) 523-5888

**Louisiana
Chronic Wasting Disease
Surveillance and Contingency Plan**



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

March, 2003

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) SURVEILLANCE AND CONTINGENCY PLAN 2002-2007

In the last 2 years, a formerly obscure wildlife disease known to only a few wildlife biologists, veterinarians, and hunters, has become an issue of national concern. The disease, known as chronic wasting disease or CWD, was once confined to portions of Colorado and Wyoming, but is now found in 12 states and 2 Canadian provinces. CWD threatens to have long lasting impacts on the way deer and elk are managed and hunted.

CWD belongs to a group of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). Other more commonly known TSEs include scrapie in sheep, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (also known as BSE or mad cow disease) in cattle, and Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (CJD) in humans. CWD and these other TSE diseases cause damage to brain tissue and are invariably fatal. Animals do not seem to develop immunity to CWD or the other TSEs.

The precise cause of CWD is not known, however, the most widely accepted theory is that CWD, and other TSEs are caused by an infectious agent called a prion. Prions are not bacterial or viral organisms, but instead, are mutant versions of proteins that are normally found in the body. Prions have the ability to resist attack by enzymes and transform normal proteins into more prions. Accumulations of prions eventually kill nerve cells and cause holes to develop in the brain tissue. Brain tissue of infected animals has a sponge-like appearance when microscopically examined.

CWD appears to be limited to the deer family, also known as cervids. The disease has been found to naturally occur in white-tailed deer, mule deer, and elk. The susceptibility of other cervids such as fallow deer, red deer, and axis deer to CWD is unknown. Species outside of the deer family have been experimentally infected, but their vulnerability to natural infection is not known.

The precise means by which CWD is passed from animal to animal is unknown but appears to be through infected urine, feces, or saliva. Infected animals may display a variety of symptoms that include: emaciation, changes in behavior, increased drinking and urination, drooped head and ears, general weakness, dehydration, and depression.

CWD first appeared in deer research enclosures in Colorado in the 1960s, but was first thought to be a digestive malady. It was not diagnosed as a new TSE until 1978. The origin of CWD is uncertain. One hypothesis is that scrapie (the sheep TSE), spread or adapted to infect deer. Another suggests that CWD spontaneously appeared in either wild or captive deer. It is not known whether the disease originated from within the enclosures, or whether wild deer brought it into the Colorado research enclosures. Until it was discovered that an infectious disease was afflicting deer in these enclosures, these deer were sometimes released into the wild or transferred to other enclosures.

By the mid 1980's it was evident that CWD was established in wild deer and elk in north-central Colorado and southeastern Wyoming. Until 1996, CWD was thought to occur only in parts of Colorado and Wyoming. Since then, CWD has been found in privately owned captive deer or elk herds in Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Movement of infected captive animals has been linked to the occurrence of CWD in many of these states. Only since 2000, has CWD been found in wild deer outside of north-central Colorado and southeastern Wyoming. Wild deer infected with CWD have since been found in western Colorado, Illinois, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin and Saskatchewan. Several of the recent detections of CWD in wild deer have been spatially correlated with infected captive cervids.

CWD Surveillance Program

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has conducted annual disease and parasite surveys on the state's deer herd since the mid-1960's. CWD testing was added to the disease surveillance program for the first time in 2002. Expansion of the scope of the disease-monitoring program was a direct response to the movement of CWD east of the Mississippi River and the increased interstate movement of deer/elk in association with commercial farming of these cervids.

Louisiana's CWD surveillance program was developed from guidelines and recommendations originating from two primary sources; 1.) Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS), College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia and 2.) United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS).

1.) University of Georgia Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study - Surveillance for Chronic Wasting Disease – September 6, 2002 - *“Since 1998, SCWDS has conducted CWD testing on all cervids examined for disease diagnosis or herd health evaluation. Results have been uniformly negative and we have no reason to believe that CWD is present in the Southeast. However, it is necessary to document its absence, or identify locations where CWD occurs, if it is present. Passive surveillance is the thorough testing of all target profile (sick) animals. Active surveillance is large-scale random testing based on risk factors such as the presence of live captive deer or elk of uncertain CWD status or recent importation of cervids from areas where CWD is known to occur. Adequate surveillance for CWD cannot be accomplished in a single year and should be regarded as a multi-year process.”*

2.) United States Department of Agriculture APHIS - CWD Sampling Template – Nov. 2002. *“The recent discovery of CWD in wildlife in areas outside of the known endemic areas in CO and WY has emphasized the need for organized surveillance in wild cervid populations throughout the country to establish the distribution of CWD in wildlife. USDA personnel have developed a simple template with guidelines for surveillance this year.”*

“When considering a disease with low prevalence and a need for high confidence of freedom from disease, the sample size needed for a given population increases until the population reaches approximately 10,000 animals. At that point the sample needed, for statistical purposes does not increase even with increasing population size over 10,000 animals. Ultimately, the number of samples needed depends on the number of distinct populations that are of interest within a given area.”

“Many factors must be considered when defining a population for the purpose of detecting Chronic Wasting Disease. Known risks for introduction of disease can also be considered. Higher risk populations should generally be defined as a separate, “targeted” area or population for sampling. Examples of areas that could be considered for targeted sampling include:

- *Areas with a large number of farmed cervids. These areas may be higher risk due to concentration of animals and/or movements into the herd.*
- *Areas where animals have been introduced through translocation/transplantation.”*

“In addition to random sampling, year round targeted surveillance of animals exhibiting clinical signs (emaciation, abnormal behaviors, salivation, tremors, incoordination etc.) or gross lesions (particularly bronchopneumonia associated with aspiration) consistent with CWD is an important enhancement to generalized surveillance activities and should not be overlooked.”

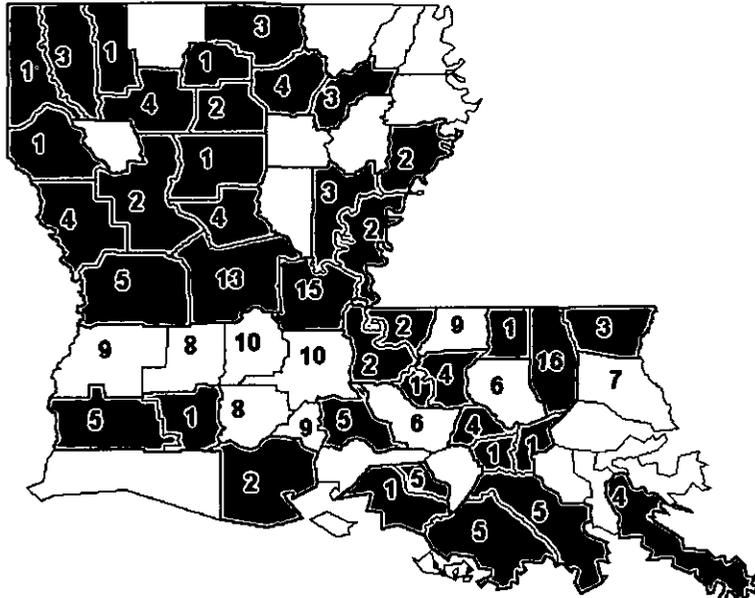
Important surveillance methodology developed by Wildlife Agencies in CWD endemic states (Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Wisconsin) is also included in this surveillance plan.

LDWF CWD Surveillance Goals

1. Implement an active CWD surveillance program of sufficient sampling intensity to have a high degree of confidence (99% level) in our ability to detect the disease even at a 1% prevalence rate.
2. Have sufficient sampling intensity, if the disease is discovered, to be able to:
 - Estimate the prevalence, and distribution of CWD.
 - Find areas of new CWD outbreaks (early detection).
 - Monitor trends and detect changes in CWD infection rates in response to the natural course of the disease and management techniques applied.
 - Satisfy public concern about LDWF’s CWD management efforts.
3. Utilize the best possible scientific information available to achieve these goals.
4. Conduct CWD testing for disease surveillance purposes only (not as food quality testing).
5. Provide the public with accurate and timely information about surveillance results (LDWF web site).

CWD Surveillance Methods

Commercial deer/elk farming activities have intensified in Louisiana during the past 10 years. In 2002 approximately 240 deer pens were permitted by LDWF (100 game breeder pens) and Louisiana Department of Agriculture (140 commercial pens). Based on what has occurred in some other states and the fact that national CWD testing and monitoring programs exist, it is possible that CWD infected deer or elk may have been transported into and moved around within the state. Due to the potential statewide risk, an active multi-year surveillance program must be implemented.



LDWF & LDAF Deer Pen Distribution 2002

Sampling Strategy

Louisiana's deer herd could be considered one population because there are few, if any, real barriers that prevent exchange of animals; i.e., the habitats in Louisiana are largely contiguous. However, following USDA's recommendation, the State's population was considered two subpopulations based on the presence or absence of large or concentrated cervid farming/high fence operations. This stratification was done because of the history of Chronic Wasting Disease being associated primarily within or in the immediate vicinity of cervid farming operations.

Based on the desire to be able to detect a 1% prevalence rate at the 99% confidence level (APHIS guidelines), 500 deer within each subpopulation will be examined from collection sites distributed throughout the state. The number of deer collected within each parish and subpopulation designation status was determined based on deer/pen densities. Older deer ($\geq 2 \frac{1}{2}$ years) will comprise the majority of the samples. This additional stratification will maximize the likelihood of CWD detection because of the long latency period.

Targeted surveillance – Non-random collection of suspect (clinically ill) animals and higher risk locations.

Targeted surveillance is simply looking for the disease where it is most likely found. A goal of 500 targeted animals has been established (Appendix A). In the CWD endemic areas of Colorado 20% of the targeted sample proved positive while only 4% of geographically random samples were positive. In Wisconsin, 47% of the 18 positive white-tailed deer were in poor condition, a criterion for a target animal. Targeted sampling is the most effective method for detecting CWD in free-ranging deer. Based on risk assessment, sampling will be targeted toward the following animals:

1. **Clinical suspects** – Sick deer that display CWD symptoms - emaciated and/or displaying neurological signs. Typically the public reports these animals to LDWF.
2. **Confiscated deer** – Animals being illegally imported into or transported across Louisiana (as dictated by LDWF import ban regulations L.A.C. 76:V.117). Also, deer of uncertain origin being illegally confined in an unpermitted facility (L.R.S. 56:171).
3. **Targeted wild deer** -- Hunter harvested deer taken from WMA and DMAP units in proximity to selected deer pens and/or geographic areas including:
 - Pens that contain or have contained elk.
 - Pens that contain white-tailed deer imported from out-of-state
 - Pens that have a history of high-volume deer trafficking.
 - Locations with several pens clustered in a relatively small area.
 - Parishes with highest deer pen density - Avoyelles, Rapides and Tangipahoa

Targeted surveillance zones around selected deer pen facilities will vary in size depending on habitat type. Home range and dispersal research in the southeast indicates deer living in upland piney-woods habitat move less than deer found in bottomland habitat due to differences in habitat structure (woodland fragmentation) and flooding. A sampling radius of 3 to 5 miles will be applied depending on the location of deer pens in these habitats.

4. **Deer pen mortality** - Animals dying inside a LDWF permitted Game Breeder pen (Mandatory reporting as dictated by L.A.C. 76:V.107). Many states and Canadian provinces have adopted mandatory mortality reporting as a means of disease management in the cervid farming industry.
5. **Deer pen escapees** - Deer from unknown locations that display tame behavior (often tagged/collared) indicating they have been raised in captivity.

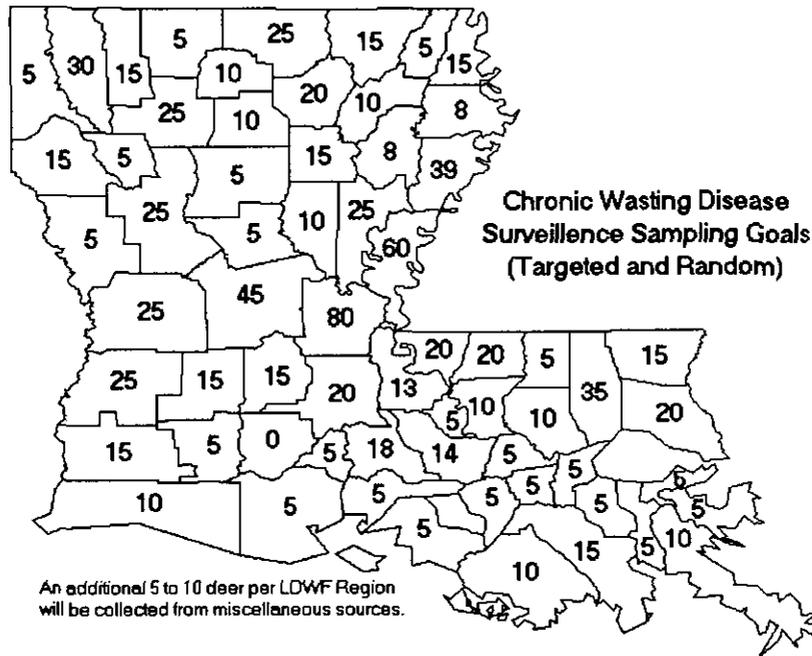
Geographically Random Surveillance - Systematic random statewide sampling.

Random Surveillance will provide a relatively unbiased point estimate about the presence (or absence) of CWD in Louisiana. If targeted surveillance were the only method used, detection rates could be low for several reasons:

- Absence of early-stage (1-5 years) detection prior to clinical symptoms.
- Low proportion of infected animals displaying clinical symptoms.
- Rapid removal of sick animals by predators.

The clustered distribution of positive animals in Colorado and Wisconsin demonstrates the need for thorough statewide (random) sampling. Random sampling is necessary to identify the presence and distribution of CWD if it is present. A goal of 500 random surveillance animals has been established. Random samples of wild deer will be taken from two primary sources:

1. **Hunter harvested deer** – Samples will be collected during the 2002-2003 hunting season from WMA public hunts, DMAP volunteers and deer processing plants (Appendix A).
2. **Research collections, road-kills and confiscated illegal deer (enforcement)** - Additional wild deer obtained from miscellaneous sources outside the hunting season.



Sample Collection

Key to the effectiveness of the surveillance program will be sampling decisions made at the local level by Regional LDWF biologists. The technical staff's thorough knowledge

of local deer herds and people, as well as the risk factors associated with specific deer pens will be vital to the program. As with other recent deer research endeavors (reproductive studies, etc.), cooperation from volunteer DMAP clubs (representing 15% of the states 17 million acres of occupied deer habitat) will also play a vital role in the success of the surveillance program. Another important source of samples will be public hunts held on state WMAs, National Wildlife Refuges and National Forests. Deer processing facilities will also be important in certain areas of the state.

Regional biologists will solicit samples from specific volunteers and provide them with the proper sampling instructions and materials to collect 5 to 10 samples from each area of special concern. Deer heads will be identified with aluminum ear tags containing pertinent information (hunter name, harvest date, sex, location, and DMAP tag number).

Tissue Sampling



Tissue sampling and preservation methodology will strictly adhere to SCWDS and USDA-APHIS guidelines. Brain stem (medulla oblongata obex) and retropharyngeal lymph nodes will be extracted and fixed in a 10% formalin solution. A frozen backup sample consisting of obex trimmings and lymph gland will be frozen at each Regional office to provide confirmation testing in the event of a positive.

Testing Methodology

CWD samples will be tested at a USDA National Veterinary Services CWD-certified laboratory. In 2002 samples will be shipped to the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa and Texas A&M Veterinary Laboratory in College Station, Texas. Tissue will be tested by immunohistochemistry (IHC), currently the only testing method for CWD recognized by the USDA.

Expected Expenses

2002

With a USDA approved surveillance plan, testing cost to LDWF is free for 2002 pending expected funding distribution to USDA. USDA has approved the sampling scheme described in this document. Although personnel costs were limited by utilizing DMAP cooperators and collecting during the Department's managed either-sex hunts, more than 200 man-days will be devoted to the CWD surveillance program in 2002-03. If CWD is detected during the surveillance, costs will be considerably more due to herd reduction

efforts within the detection area and associated increased samples. The detection of CWD in wild white-tailed deer in states outside of the historical endemic area has resulted in tremendous costs to those states. Direct costs, i.e., those associated with the surveillance and control of this disease have exceeded \$1,000,000 for the state of Wisconsin in its 1st year. This excludes the loss of revenue from persons no longer deer hunting (a 10% drop in deer licenses was recorded the 1st year), loss of revenue associated with deer leases that were not renewed or prices were reduced, and loss of real estate values.

2003-2006

The initial direct cost to the Department, assuming the disease is not detected and diagnostic testing will not continue to be free, is in excess of 150,000 (Appendix B). After acquisition of needed equipment, annual costs will continue to be in excess of \$90,000. Again, assuming no detection of CWD.

CWD testing at this time cost about \$30 per sample (shipping included). Estimated annual cost for the next four years would be at least \$30,000 annually for the testing of the samples. Over 100 days of personnel time have been allocated to collect deer heads and pull and fix the samples. If CWD is detected during the surveillance, costs will be considerably more due to herd reduction efforts within the detection area and associated increased sampling.

Records and Data Management

Record keeping and data management will follow SCWDS guidelines. Sample information will include collection date, precise location, sex, and hunter contact information, if needed. Individual samples will be identified with the following SCWDS numbering system: CWD-LA02-0001 – (CWD-State/year-4 digit ID number). Electronic records will be maintained on Microsoft excel to allow interagency (SCWDS) data sharing. Periodically, the CWD database with test results will be forwarded to Regional biologists as well as posted on the LDWF web site for public review.

Expected Benefits

Implementation of the CWD surveillance plan will prove invaluable to LDWF deer management efforts as well as to public education. The more informed LDWF and the public becomes, the more effective CWD risks (real and perceived) can be managed.

The primary purpose of this surveillance program is to verify the status of CWD in Louisiana. If this extensive 5 years surveillance program does not discover CWD, the public's deep concern surrounding this mysterious disease will, to a large extent, be alleviated. Deer hunters/managers/observers across the state will then be free to enjoy Louisiana's wonderful deer resource in the uninhibited manner they were accustomed to prior to the CWD outbreaks in other states. Thus, white-tailed deer will then retain their rightful status as a valued natural resource. (Nonetheless, this surveillance program will

necessarily have to continue annually as part of the Department's normal disease testing program.)

In the unlikely event that CWD is found, early detection by this surveillance program will provide LDWF biologists with an opportunity to take measures to reduce disease transmission by reducing the number of infected animals as early as possible in the outbreak. Reducing deer numbers as described in Appendix C within the detection area (if any) also will provide an unbiased prevalence rate for the infected area. Current statutory authority and other needed regulations are outlined in Appendix D.

**APPENDIX A
2002 CWD SURVEILLANCE SAMPLING PLAN**

	RANDOM	TARGETED	TOTAL
	Goal	Goal	Goal
REGION 1			
Bienville	10	15	25
Bossier	10	20	30
Caddo	5	0	5
Claiborne	5	0	5
Desoto	5	10	15
Red River	5	0	5
Webster	10	5	15
Misc.	0	5	5
Subtotal	50	55	105
REGION 2			
East Carroll	15	0	15
Jackson	10	0	10
Lincoln	5	5	10
Morehouse	15	0	15
Ouachita	10	10	20
Richland	10	0	10
Union	5	20	25
West Carroll	5	0	5
Misc.	0	5	5
Subtotal	75	40	115
REGION 3			
Grant	5	0	5
Lasalle	10	0	10
Natchitoches	5	20	25
Rapides	0	45	45
Sabine	5	0	5
Winn	5	0	5
Misc.	0	5	5
Subtotal	30	70	100
REGION 4			
Caldwell	15	0	15
Catahoula	10	15	25
Concordia	5	55	60
Franklin	8	0	8
Madison	8	0	8
Tensas	9	30	39
Misc.	0	5	5
Subtotal	55	105	160

(Continued)

	RANDOM	TARGETED	TOTAL
	Goal	Goal	Goal
REGION 5			
Acadia	0	0	0
Allen	15	0	15
Beauregard	5	20	25
Calcasieu	5	10	15
Cameron	5	5	10
Evangline	10	5	15
Jeff Davis	5	0	5
Vermillion	5	0	5
Vernon	25	0	25
Misc.	0	10	10
Subtotal	75	50	125
REGION 6			
Assumption	5	0	5
Avoyelles	20	60	80
Iberia	5	0	5
Iberville	14	0	14
Lafayette	5	0	5
Point Coupee	13	0	13
St Landry	15	5	20
St Martin	13	5	18
St Mary	5	0	5
Terrebonne	5	5	10
W B R	5	0	5
Misc.	0	10	10
Subtotal	105	85	190
REGION 7			
Ascension	5	0	5
E Baton R	5	5	10
E Feliciana	5	15	20
Jefferson	5	0	5
LaFourche	5	10	15
Livingston	5	5	10
Orleans	5	0	5
Plaquemines	5	5	10
St Brenard	5	0	5
St Charles	5	0	5
St Helena	5	0	5
St James	5	0	5
St John	5	0	5
St Tammany	15	5	20
Tangipahoa	0	35	35
Washington	15	0	15
W Feliciana	15	5	20
Misc.	0	10	10
Subtotal	110	95	205
TOTAL	500	500	1000

Appendix B

Surveillance Costs

Diagnostic Test , shipping and supplies: 1,000 animals @ \$30/animal	\$ 30,000
Sample Collection - LDWF personnel time @ \$300/8hrs:	
• Targeted samples: pickup 100 clinical suspects @ 4hr./animal	\$ 15,000
• Hunter harvest sample: 900 animals @ 0.5hr/animal	\$ 16,875
• Administrative: data management for 1,000 @ 0.25hr./animal and report writing	\$ 9,375
Confiscated animals – Veterinarian fees (immobilization & euthanasia) and incineration for 100 animals @ \$100/animal	\$ 10,000
Contract head collection - deer processing facility for 100 @ \$5/head	\$ 500
Subtotal	\$ 81,750

Other Costs

Public Education

1. Publications

• Reprints from Conservationist article: 15,000 copies @ \$0.25	\$ 3,750
• CWD pamphlet with color photos: 15,000 @ \$0.15	\$ 2,250

2. Equipment

• Computer projectors 4 @ \$2,500 each	\$ 10,000
• VCR 4 @ \$250	\$ 1,000
• Computers	\$ 3,000

3. <u>Programs</u> – 35 md/yr	\$ 10,500
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3. <u>LDWF CWD web site</u> – 5 md/year	\$ 1,500
Subtotal	\$ 32,000

Surveillance and Collection Equipment

• 22 Cal. Rifles – euthanasia 30 @ \$200	\$ 6,000
• 6' throw net – fawn recapture 10 @ \$75	\$ 750
• Deer carrying crates – 10 @ \$500	\$ 5,000
• Immobilization equipment – 5 Regions @ \$1,000	\$ 5,000
• One large capacity deep freeze	\$ 500
Subtotal	\$ 17,250

Staff Training

1. Euthanasia School – 10 people @ 2 md and \$80 registration	\$ 8,300
2. Immobilization School – 10 people @ 2 md and \$450 registration	\$ 12,000
3. Out of State travel educational/training Symposium – 3 md/year	\$ 1,500
Subtotal	\$ 21,800
Grand Total	\$152,800

Appendix C.

CWD Management in Louisiana

If a deer tests positive for CWD, the following should occur.

1. Intense surveillance in the area of the positive test(s) will be implemented to determine the spatial distribution and prevalence (percentage of infected deer) of infection. Initially, this would involve the collection and testing of one per twenty acres (32 per sq. mile) in a one-mile radius of the initial infected area. Within the two-mile radius zone of the infected area collect and test one deer per forty acres (16 deer per sq. mile) and within the three-mile radius zone collected and test one deer per eighty acres (8 per sq. mile). While this level of testing may appear aggressive, it would provide the added benefit of initiating the herd reduction program in the infected area. If additional CWD positive deer are detected during the collections, the spatial distribution of the surveillance area will expand accordingly. Collections will be accomplished using Wildlife and Enforcement Division employees.
2. An interagency task force of wildlife biologists, veterinarians, and wildlife disease specialists from LDWF, LDAF, USDA, SCWDS, and LSU will be assembled to develop a site-specific CWD management plan. Other state and federal land management agencies such as the USFWS, USFS, and USACOE, would be involved if the CWD positive area includes their land. The plan would include the following:
 - a. Herd Reduction Goals The primary means of controlling a CWD outbreak involves reduction of the deer density in the infected area to decrease transmission rates and contain or eliminate the disease. The severity of the herd reduction may depend on the initial deer density, site habitat characteristics, the spatial distribution of the disease as determined by the initial outbreak surveillance, landowner cooperation, and expected outcomes based on modeling certain parameters specific to the outbreak.
 - b. Carcass Disposal: Proper carcass disposal procedures and logistics are an important component of the plan and may help prevent the spread of CWD.
 - c. Long-term Monitoring: Long-term monitoring of the outbreak site and surrounding area is essential to determining whether CWD has been contained or eliminated.
3. The LWFC and LDAF/LA Livestock Sanitary Board should implement the emergency rules outlined in Appendix D to assist in containment of the outbreak.
4. Establish official information outlets to keep the press and public informed regarding CWD management plans, activities, and developments.
5. Meet with landowners and citizens in the affected area to provide information and discuss the implications of CWD in their deer herds.

6. The LWFC and LDWF should meet to determine the most feasible means to achieve the herd reduction goals. Expanded deer seasons, elimination of bag limits, use of sharpshooters, and year-round shooting are among the options available.
7. The LDWF Secretary, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Governor should pursue funding from state and federal sources to cover the sustained high cost to state agencies of managing the CWD outbreak.

Appendix D.

Existing Regulatory Authority

A CWD outbreak in Louisiana would require the cooperation of the LDAF and LDWF. Each agency is granted certain authority that would be needed to effectively address a CWD incident. The Louisiana Constitution and statutes give the LDWF and LWFC broad authority over the wildlife of the state. LDWF also has authority to regulate possession of domestic WTD and other wildlife. Statutes give LDAF authority to regulate farm-raised WTD, elk, and exotic deer that are kept for commercial purposes. The LDAF through the Livestock Sanitary Board has authority to make and enforce rules to address diseases of animals. Since the LWFC has exclusive control over wild animals, the authority of the Livestock Sanitary Board to address diseases of wild animals may be limited.

Summary of pertinent statutes:

L.R.S. 56:3 provides that the state has ownership and title to all wildlife, and the LWFC is the regulatory body with exclusive control over the state's wildlife.

L.R.S. 56:115 gives the LWFC authority to promulgate rules for hunting, taking, possession, and protection of wildlife.

L.R.S. 56:171 provides that anyone who possesses domestic WTD must have a license from the LDWF.

L.R.S. 3:3101 provides that anyone who possesses farm-raised WTD or elk for commercial purposes must have a license from LDAF.

L.R.S. 3:2095 provides that the Livestock Sanitary Board has power to deal with contagious and infectious diseases of animals.

L.R.S. 3:2097 prohibits interstate or intrastate movement of diseased animals including farm-raised WTD and elk without written approval of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

L.R.S. 3:2094 provides that the Livestock Sanitary Board may establish and enforce quarantine lines.

Summary of pertinent rules:

L.A.C. 76:V.107 (LWFC Game Breeder Rule) – provides that new licenses for WTD will not be issued and LDWF must be notified when any deer in an existing licensed enclosure dies.

L.A.C. 76:V.117 (LWFC Importation Rule) – provides that importation into or transport through Louisiana of WTD is prohibited. Requires that persons moving deer between licensed enclosures within the state give notification to LDWF.

L.A.C. 76:V.121 (LWFC Deer Disposal Rule) – provides that deer possessed illegally will be confiscated and at the discretion of LDWF, may be euthanized.

LDAF Quarantine – prohibits importation into or transport through Louisiana of WTD, elk, red deer, mule deer, or black-tailed deer unless the animals originate from a herd participating in a CWD surveillance program for at least 60 months.

L.A.C. 7:XXI.1501 (LDAF Alternative Livestock Rule) – establishes requirements for keeping farm-raised WTD and elk for commercial purposes.

Needed Regulations or Statutes

If CWD is found in Louisiana additional rules will be needed to effectively manage the disease. These include:

- Feeding and Baiting Prohibition (LWFC) – needed to reduce direct contact between deer and indirect contact via potentially infected saliva, urine, or feces. The feeding and baiting prohibition should at least be in effect in the area of the outbreak, but caution may dictate that the prohibition be effective statewide.
- Intrastate Movement Prohibition (LWFC and LDAF) – needed to prevent spreading CWD from one area of the state to another by movement of live captive animals.
- Mandatory participation in USDA certified-free CWD monitoring program (LWFC and LDAF) -- needed to prevent intrastate movement (other than to slaughter) until CWD-free certification is attained (5 years of monitoring)
- Carcass Disposal Regulations (LWFC) -- needed to reduce the chance of spreading CWD from the outbreak area to other areas. The rule should prohibit movement of bones, organs, etc. from the area of the kill occurring in CWD management area. Hunters would not be allowed to remove entire carcasses or portions of carcasses containing brain or spinal cord tissue.
- Liberalized Hunting Regulations (LWFC) -- needed to allow increased kill to reach population reduction goals. Removal of bag limits and/or longer seasons may be needed.
- Mandatory Death Notification and Testing of Captive Animals (LDAF) – needed to monitor captive herds. The LWFC currently requires licensed game breeders to notify LDWF when captive deer die. A similar rule is needed by LDAF to require alternative livestock license holders to give notice when farm-raised deer or elk die.
- Quarantine of Captive Deer or Elk Enclosures (LDAF) – needed to prevent ingress and egress of animals from enclosures located in or near the CWD management area.

LOUISIANA CWD TEST RESULTS 2002

Louisiana Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

SURVEILLANCE METHOD	TOTAL SAMPLE	NOT DETECTED (ND)	LOCATION (LOC)	NO TEST
Random Samples (5 Wild Deer/Parish)	692	636	54	2
Targeted Locations (Wild Deer Near Pens)	460	397	55	8
Clinical Suspects (Sick Wild Deer)	31	29	2	0
Confiscated Pen Deer (Illegal Pen Deer)	8	8	0	0
LDWF Deer Pens (Mortality & Harvest)	10	9	1	0
LDAF Deer Pens (Mortality & Harvest)	57	46	11	0
LDWF TOTALS	1,258	1,125	123	10

Louisiana Dept. Agriculture & Forestry

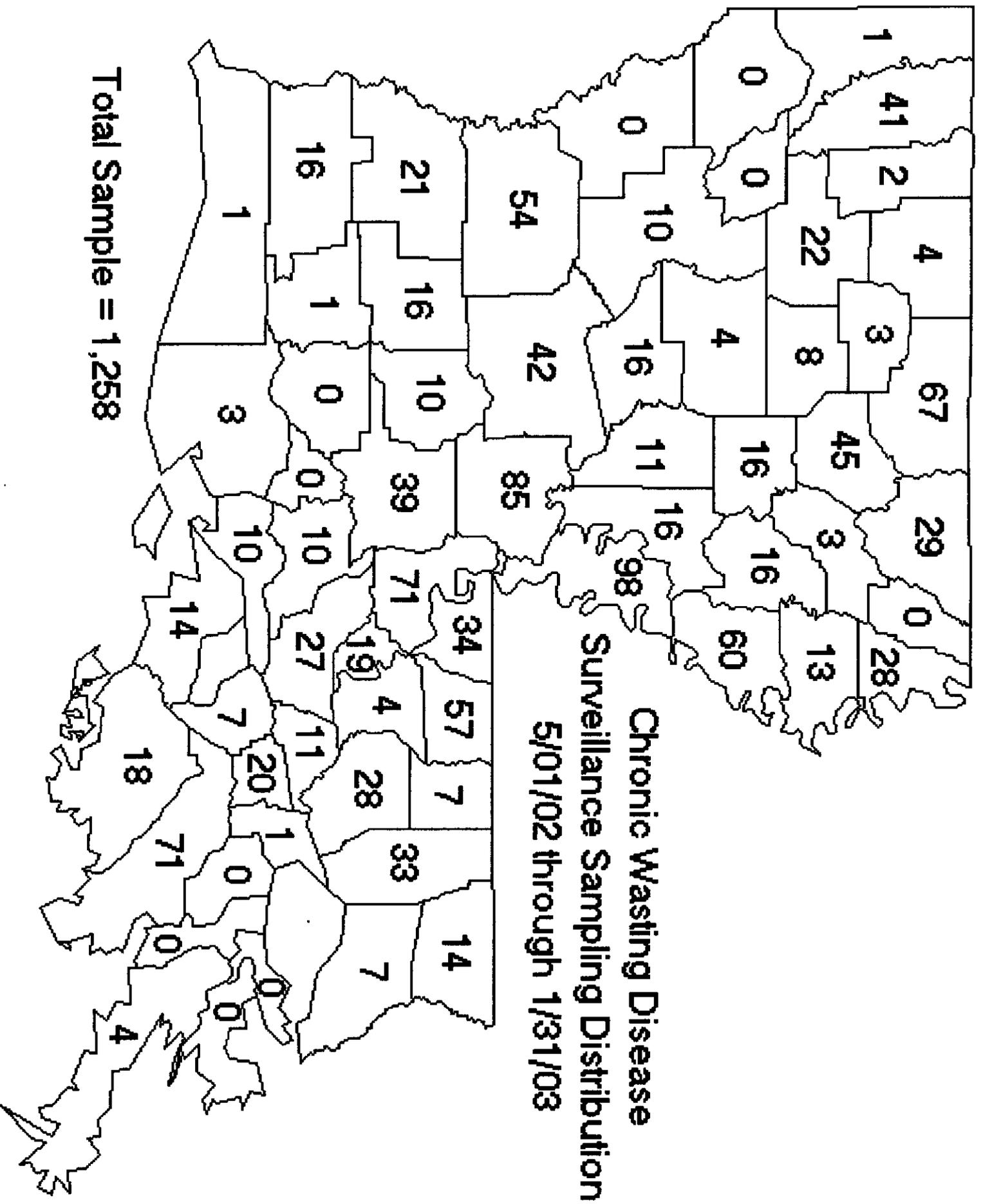
Captive Deer	88	88	0	0
Captive Elk	12	12	0	0
Wild Deer	5	5	0	0
LDAF TOTALS	105	105	0	0

STATE TOTALS	1,363	1,230	123	10
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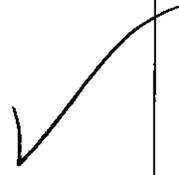
NOT DETECTED (ND) - CWD Not Found in Brain Stem

LOCATION (LOC) - Location of Tissue Sample Unsuitable (Frozen or Decomposed)

NO TEST - Lymph Gland Sample (Only) - Not Tested by Texas A&M Lab



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September</h1>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

PERIOD	NO. CASES ASSESSED	AMOUNT ASSESSED	CREDIT FOR SALE GOODS	NO. CASES PAID	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNTS TAKEN	PERCENT DOLLARS PAID	PERCENT CASES PAID
FISCAL YEAR 1993-94								
July, 1993	25	\$21,039.00	(\$9,778.00)	29	\$4,855.00	\$2,545.00		
Aug., 1993	53	\$44,922.00	(\$1,137.00)	41	\$7,950.00	\$3,603.00		
Sept., 1993	42	\$137,635.00	(\$17,938.00)	35	\$6,783.00	\$3,048.00		
Oct., 1993	49	\$21,471.00	(\$11,282.00)	40	\$3,285.00	\$1,519.00		
Nov., 1993	57	\$31,207.00	(\$13,260.00)	32	\$3,053.00	\$2,845.00		
Dec., 1993	53	\$13,777.00		27	\$6,507.00	\$6,713.00		
Jan., 1994	38	\$18,918.00		32	\$4,423.00	\$2,831.00		
Feb., 1994	68	\$38,131.00	(\$8,238.00)	46	\$9,124.00	\$5,993.00		
Mar., 1994	38	\$22,739.00	(\$2,482.00)	51	\$10,854.00	\$6,796.00		
April, 1994	14	\$44,732.00	(\$1,404.00)	27	\$7,307.00	\$4,632.00		
May, 1994	10	\$4,504.00	(\$165.00)	7	\$5,447.00	\$3,808.00		
June, 1994	29	\$26,167.00	(\$2,986.00)	12	\$1,886.00	\$1,214.00		
Total FY 1994	476	\$425,242.00	(\$68,670.00)	379	\$71,474.00	\$45,547.00	27.5%	79.6%
FISCAL YEAR 1994-95								
July, 1994	17	\$2,127.00	(\$335.00)	23	\$2,101.00	\$1,437.00		
Aug., 1994	41	\$96,403.00	(\$3,035.00)	20	\$1,010.00	\$605.00		
Sept., 1994	34	\$14,614.00	(\$14,002.00)	26	\$2,596.00	\$2,342.00		
Oct., 1994	94	\$17,426.00	(\$8,677.00)	38	\$2,922.00	\$3,179.00		
Nov., 1994	43	\$103,592.00		45	\$3,992.00	\$2,803.00		
Dec., 1994	68	\$31,400.00		35	\$4,315.00	\$2,329.00		
Jan., 1995	55	\$27,601.00		52	\$7,493.00	\$4,921.00		
Feb., 1995	70	\$61,119.00		41	\$6,472.00	\$3,973.00		
Mar., 1995	31	\$25,072.00		44	\$8,315.00	\$4,737.00		
Apr., 1995	13	\$15,353.00		16	\$3,565.00	\$1,538.00		
May., 1995	23	\$11,632.00		16	\$4,315.00	\$654.00		
June 1995	45	\$31,008.00		18	\$2,630.00	\$1,025.00		
Total FY 1995	534	\$437,347.00	(\$26,049.00)	374	\$49,726.00	\$29,543.00	18.1%	70.0%
FICAL YEAR 1995-96								
July, 1995	0	\$0.00						
Aug., 1995	46	\$17,425.00		27	\$9,028.00	\$1,729.00		
Sept., 1995	1	\$125.00		21	\$3,093.00	\$2,049.00		
Oct., 1995	122	\$206,244.00		29	\$2,720.00	\$1,161.00		
Nov., 1995	55	\$23,124.00		62	\$10,151.00	\$6,383.00		
Dec., 1995	50	\$18,607.26		32	\$4,780.66	\$2,802.76		
Jan., 1996	49	\$13,814.88	(\$15,296.45)	36	\$5,296.51	\$3,472.89		
Feb., 1996	50	\$14,716.97		38	\$5,777.53	\$3,416.91		
Mar., 1996	33	\$24,936.91		36	\$6,035.12	\$3,421.75		
Apr., 1996	30	\$11,006.66		36	\$7,173.12	\$2,711.54		
May., 1996	23	\$7,989.34		24	\$3,941.69	\$2,020.29		
June 1996	50	\$22,151.31		16	\$2,790.02	\$1,182.23		
Total FY 1996	509	\$360,141.33	(\$15,296.45)	357	\$60,786.65	\$30,350.37	25.3%	70.1%
FISCAL YEAR 1996-97								
July, 1996	40	\$71,894.13		32	\$5,249.93	\$2,947.96		
Aug., 1996	32	\$5,362.64		32	\$6,254.59	\$3,783.69		
Sept., 1996	41	\$7,210.00		29	\$2,259.96	\$1,326.58		
Oct., 1996	29	\$11,092.53		25	\$3,697.89	\$2,261.98		
Nov., 1996	20	\$10,009.10		22	\$1,624.63	\$698.02		
Dec., 1996	13	\$238,466.04		22	\$5,877.18	\$2,121.53		
Jan., 1997	27	\$11,755.22		17	\$4,393.30	\$2,377.09		
Feb., 1997	47	\$18,520.87		42	\$8,579.84	\$5,552.63		
Mar., 1997	26	\$13,434.02		27	\$4,999.59	\$2,757.67		
Apr., 1997	10	\$2,908.87		15	\$2,322.88	\$1,298.66		
May., 1997	20	\$11,682.70		15	\$5,198.91	\$1,399.21		
June 1997	5	\$8,036.58		10	\$2,335.24	\$765.34		
Total FY 1997	310	\$410,372.70	\$0.00	288	\$52,793.94	\$27,290.36	19.5%	92.9%
FICAL YEAR 1997 - 98								
July, 1997	10	\$2,811.71		8	\$1,584.67	\$823.11		
Aug., 1997	14	\$8,741.30		8	\$1,496.49	\$779.14		
Sept., 1997	29	\$19,926.37		12	\$2,051.78	\$1,278.04		
Oct., 1997	12	\$4,716.81		23	\$3,184.83	\$2,063.89		
Nov., 1997	23	\$54,965.34		10	\$2,424.86	\$1,218.28		
Dec., 1997	25	\$36,881.09		15	\$4,376.97	\$2,775.66		
Jan., 1998	42	\$30,025.81		17	\$5,300.40	\$3,533.66		
Feb., 1998	37	\$31,164.95		29	\$22,961.69	\$8,501.18		
Mar., 1998	9	\$13,273.45		32	\$9,406.56	\$4,371.53		

Apr., 1998	10	\$5,628.21		10	\$2,602.62	\$1,279.77		
May., 1998	0	\$225.00		8	\$2,885.02	\$950.46		
June 1998	5	\$2,414.03		6	\$1,041.54	\$98.00		
Total FY 1998	216	\$210,774.07	\$0.00	178	\$59,317.43	\$27,672.72	41.3%	82.4%

FICAL YEAR 1998 - 99

July, 1998	9	\$1,390.43		8	\$1,964.20	\$716.75		
Aug., 1998	10	\$2,240.70		10	\$1,048.28	\$372.47		
Sept., 1998	8	\$2,768.96		11	\$2,000.36	\$1,148.23		
Oct., 1998	22	\$28,704.85		14	\$1,860.17	\$807.48		
Nov., 1998	19	\$9,137.79		11	\$1,765.97	\$1,092.43		
Dec., 1998	23	\$11,959.10		27	\$4,441.02	\$2,040.71		
Jan., 1999	41	\$21,179.55		18	\$6,621.63	\$3,838.22		
Feb., 1999	45	\$26,236.24		41	\$12,119.09	\$6,923.61		
Mar., 1999	15	\$7,549.57		33	\$8,281.77	\$4,138.44		
Apr., 1999	9	\$8,013.54		14	\$3,035.82	\$1,388.41		
May., 1999	5	\$5,161.23		5	\$905.50	\$405.00		
June 1999	7	\$3,719.01		13	\$3,011.06	\$533.83		
Total FY 1999	213	\$128,060.97	\$0.00	205	\$47,054.87	\$23,405.58	55.0%	96.2%

FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

July, 1999	5	\$1,556.38		9	\$2,287.53	\$1,198.81		
Aug., 1999	10	\$2,510.83		15	\$2,455.38	\$513.73		
Sept., 1999	6	\$2,032.19	\$5,324.80	28	\$3,563.06	\$475.93		
Oct., 1999	11	\$4,452.31	\$567.75	25	\$2,775.48	\$557.41		
Nov., 1999	14	\$8,634.64		26	\$3,250.96	\$1,322.96		
Dec., 1999	24	\$15,891.96		19	\$3,862.76	\$2,126.27		
Jan., 2000	49	\$27,872.14		28	\$7,952.94	\$3,814.02		
Feb., 2000	21	\$11,039.59		30	\$10,159.24	\$6,216.42		
Mar., 2000	19	\$9,873.21		31	\$6,709.07	\$3,555.40		
Apr., 2000	12	\$7,897.70		17	\$2,932.41	\$1,512.54		
May, 2000	7	\$5,039.46	\$293.60	20	\$7,062.23	\$3,164.00		
June, 2000	16	\$14,566.88		18	\$5,766.59	\$1,852.12		
Total FY 2000	194	\$111,367.29	\$6,186.15	266	\$58,777.65	\$26,309.61	76%	137%

FISCAL YEAR 2000-01

July, 2000	2	\$865.01		14	\$1,948.03	\$154.01		
Aug., 2000	20	\$15,837.60		17	\$3,302.27	\$1,063.92		
Sept., 2000	12	\$3,562.26		23	\$8,718.21	\$1,351.41		
Oct., 2000	18	\$122,696.24		29	\$7,457.98	\$490.16		
Nov. 2000	13	\$15,851.30		22	\$4,038.50	\$309.30		
Dec., 2000	40	\$30,234.92		24	\$7,189.98	\$462.13		
Jan., 2001	28	\$15,923.38		25	\$7,611.66	\$833.60		
Feb., 2001	35	\$20,181.39		30	\$18,568.12	\$1,917.82		
Mar., 2001	8	\$5,956.83		37	\$15,724.02	\$753.86		
Apr., 2001	20	\$24,145.82		22	\$4,856.39	\$225.93		
May 2001	4	\$1,677.36		20	\$3,700.77	\$313.58		
June 2001	3	\$932.20		31	\$8,433.81	\$346.90		
Total FY 2001	203	\$257,864.31	\$0.00	294	\$91,549.74	\$8,222.62	39%	145%

FISCAL YEAR 2001-02

July, 2001	4	\$4,290.29		25	\$6,328.36	\$293.54		
Aug., 2001	6	\$9,452.69		18	\$2,984.52			
Sept., 2001	0	\$175.00		25	\$4,157.32	\$66.29		
Oct., 2001	15	\$6,439.06		18	\$3,174.66	\$67.32		
Nov., 2001	15	\$5,913.63		24	\$3,932.41	\$194.66		
Dec., 2001	36	\$21,868.88		20	\$5,384.19	\$502.17		
Jan., 2002	56	\$27,650.44		38	\$11,100.99	\$1,008.09		
Feb., 2002	27	\$14,211.31	\$620.55	37	\$20,017.87	\$861.63		
Mar., 2002	8	\$6,765.68		36	\$10,061.89	\$419.16		
Apr., 2002	20	\$11,296.19		19	\$2,196.02	\$49.33		
May, 2002	3	\$30,852.57	\$11,887.80	27	\$8,265.67	\$538.72		
June, 2002	3	\$8,636.08		23	\$3,418.15	\$87.91		
Total FY 2002	193	\$147,551.82	\$12,508.35	310	\$81,022.05	\$4,088.82	58%	161%

FISCAL YEAR 2002-03

July, 2002	8	\$6,915.26		20	\$3,308.14	\$111.90		
Aug., 2002	12	\$11,943.66		24	\$4,010.98	\$47.33		
Sept., 2002	6	\$1,944.83		19	\$4,624.36	\$85.25		
Oct., 2002	24	\$12,167.99		25	\$7,131.20	\$442.95		
Nov., 2002	21	\$11,013.41		27	\$8,688.51	\$624.99		
Dec., 2002	32	\$15,763.99		23	\$7,660.18	\$689.95		

Jan.,2003	58	\$32,391.55		22	\$7,149.09	\$562.34		
Feb.,2003	33	\$18,426.48		40	\$13,988.00	\$1,122.57		
Mar., 2003	13	\$3,668.17		28	\$9,342.76	\$643.57		
Apr., 2003	16	\$5,661.77		23	\$3,004.29	\$269.02		
May, 2003								
June, 2003								
Total FY 2003	223	\$119,897.11	\$0.00	\$251.00	\$68,907.51	\$4,599.87	61%	113%

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
 CURRENT MONTH
 04/01/2003 TO 04/30/2003

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	16	\$5,536.77
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	5	\$125.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	16	\$5,661.77
PAYMENTS	12	\$2,633.20-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	2	\$271.09-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	9	\$1,127.71-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	0	\$0.00
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	4	\$100.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	8	\$269.02-
OVERPAYMENTS	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	2	\$34.54
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$524.54-

 FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
 FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
 07/01/2002 TO 04/30/2003

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	223	\$119,122.11
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	27	\$750.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	223	\$119,872.11
PAYMENTS	135	\$54,659.88-
PAYMENTS -AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	12	\$3,673.61-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	26	\$7,594.75-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	9	\$3,756.98-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	25	\$650.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	98	\$4,599.87-
OVERPAYMENTS	10	\$2.33
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	6	\$165.28
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	1	\$148.60-
WRITE-OFFS	7	\$390.89-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	5	\$8,149.24-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	8	\$3,270.48-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	1	\$2,134.47-
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	2	\$3,543.46-

FOOTNOTE:		
FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
 INCEPTION TO DATE
 04/30/2003

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	4,613	\$3,221,360.65
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	367	\$9,725.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	331	\$269,865.45-
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	138	\$58,209.82
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	4,613	\$3,019,430.02
PAYMENTS	3,107	\$681,192.14-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	36	\$8,427.12-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	86	\$27,335.70-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	35	\$26,896.22-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	194	\$5,050.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	2,180	\$260,993.74-
OVERPAYMENTS	125	\$94.27
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	64	\$11,837.86
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	17	\$44,255.65-
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	5	\$6,780.54
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	8	\$45,896.70
RETURNED CHECKS	1	\$61.75
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	3	\$55.00
CREDITS	13	\$10.22-
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	21	\$6,881.15
CREDITS	64	\$37,061.90-
WRITE-OFFS	990	\$1,065,145.70-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	7	\$1,794.95-
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	30	\$20,550.04-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	91	\$169,056.29-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	1	\$2,134.47-
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	2	\$559.32-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	1	\$524.54-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	2	\$3,543.46-
** TOTAL OUTSTANDING	353	\$736,505.83

 FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	38	\$106,941.70 *
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AGING OF SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODITIES

VIOLATION DATE UNKNOWN	0	\$0.00
1 - 30 DAYS	1	\$15,394.40
31 - 60 DAYS	0	\$0.00
61 - 90 DAYS	2	\$150.00
91 - 120 DAYS	5	\$4,782.80
121 - 150 DAYS	3	\$2,962.65
151 - 180 DAYS	1	\$254.65
181 - 365 DAYS	44	\$50,014.74
OVER ONE YEAR	101	\$85,141.63
OVER TWO YEARS	130	\$106,544.60
OVER THREE YEARS	862	\$589,590.12
		=====
** TOTAL AGING	1,149	\$854,835.59

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CAN NOT BE INVOICED	0	\$0.00
CURRENT	15	\$4,734.27
1 - 30 DAYS	8	\$3,019.61
31 - 90 DAYS	45	\$26,764.44
91 - 180 DAYS	30	\$14,109.24
181 - 365 DAYS	20	\$56,481.73
OVER ONE YEAR	126	\$127,093.39

COLLECTIONS WITH PRIVATE COLLECTIONS FIRM:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	106	\$422,043.53

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	3	\$82,259.62
		=====

** TOTAL AGING	353	\$736,505.83
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
 CURRENT MONTH
 04/01/2003-04/30/2003

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	977	\$54,260.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	228	\$6,200.00
CREDITS	6	\$175.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	53	\$397.50
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$60,682.50

PAID IN FULL	361	\$21,197.50-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	13	\$737.50-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	3	\$180.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	3	\$12.00-
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
OVERPAYMENTS	2	\$82.50
REFUNDS	6	\$232.50
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
VOIDS	59	\$2,950.00-
NOT GUILTY	2	\$100.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	2	\$100.00-
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
 FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
 07/01/2002-04/30/2003

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	6,371	\$354,120.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	2,958	\$75,100.00
CREDITS	24	\$1,000.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	487	\$3,706.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$431,926.00

=====

PAID IN FULL	4,549	\$265,362.50-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	125	\$6,319.50-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	21	\$1,356.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	21	\$84.00-
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
OVERPAYMENTS	6	\$89.50
REFUNDS	70	\$2,224.50
RETURNED CHECKS	2	\$150.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	1	\$20.00
CREDITS	1	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	40	\$2,350.00
CREDITS	7	\$300.00-
VOIDS	283	\$14,350.00-
NOT GUILTY	36	\$1,850.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	30	\$1,550.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	15	\$750.00-
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	2	\$100.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
 INCEPTION TO DATE
 04/30/2003

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	104,698	\$5,353,427.07
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	27,666	\$692,962.80
CREDITS	25	\$10,366.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	584	\$4,458.50
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$6,040,482.37

=====

PAID IN FULL	62,367	\$3,310,474.99-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	1,590	\$73,258.75-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	14	\$690.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	33	\$345.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	21	\$1,356.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	21	\$84.00-
WRITE-OFFS	11,921	\$695,077.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	183	\$4,136.78
REFUNDS	332	\$14,942.31
RETURNED CHECKS	72	\$3,750.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	69	\$1,095.00
CREDITS	170	\$141.88-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	238	\$14,000.00
CREDITS	40	\$2,300.00-
VOIDS	5,457	\$274,450.00-
NOT GUILTY	1,209	\$61,450.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	209	\$10,600.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	41	\$2,050.00-
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	157	\$7,900.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL OUTSTANDING		\$1,638,228.34

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM CITATION DATE

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CURRENT	656	\$37,050.00
1 - 30 DAYS	554	\$30,800.00
31 - 90 DAYS	399	\$24,775.00
91 - 180 DAYS	384	\$29,125.00
181 - 365 DAYS	1,927	\$146,102.50
OVER ONE YEAR	19,296	\$1,356,615.84

COLLECTIONS WITH DEPT OF REVENUE:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	181	\$13,535.00

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	3	\$225.00

=====

** TOTAL AGING	23,400	\$1,638,228.34
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AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM HEARING DATE

PREHEARING	1,548	\$88,150.00
0 - 90 DAYS	605	\$43,575.00
91 - 180 DAYS	480	\$37,260.00
181 - 270 DAYS	828	\$63,150.00
271 - 365 DAYS	971	\$74,695.00
OVER ONE YEAR	18,968	\$1,331,398.34

=====

** TOTAL AGING	23,400	\$1,638,228.34
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SCHEDULE FOR FINAL RULES TO BE PUBLISHED IN STATE REGISTER

JULY-03

RULE - 2003-04 Hunting Season Dates

RULE - General & WMA Hunting Rules &
Regulations

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
May 1, 2003
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands - Henry Mouton/Sidney Coffee
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season - Marty Bourgeois
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/April - Keith LaCaze
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels - Charlie Clark
8. Fishing Week Resolution -  ~~Tommy Prickett~~
9. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
10. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease - Larry Savage
11. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

NEWS RELEASE

James H. Jenkins Jr.
Secretary



CONTACT
225/765-2925

2003-124

4/25/03

AMENDED AGENDA FOR MAY L.W.F.C. MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 1, 2003, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA. The agenda is as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/April
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels
8. Fishing Week Resolution
9. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
10. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease
11. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment

EDITORS: For more information, contact Thomas Gresham at 225/765-2923
(gresham_tp@wlf.state.la.us).

April 25, 2003

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AMENDED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 1, 2003, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/April
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels
8. Fishing Week Resolution
9. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
10. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease
11. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

NEWS RELEASE

James H. Jenkins Jr.
Secretary



CONTACT
225/765-2925

2003-114

4/22/03

L.W.F.C. ANNOUNCES AGENDA FOR MAY MEETING

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold their next monthly meeting on Thursday, May 1. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the Louisiana Room of the Wildlife and Fisheries Building in Baton Rouge. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels
8. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
9. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease
10. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
11. Public Comments
12. Adjournment

EDITORS: For more information, contact Thomas Gresham at 225/765-2923
(gresham_tp@wlf.state.la.us).

April 22, 2003

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: _____



AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 1, 2003, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/^{April}~~March~~
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels
8. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
9. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease
10. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
11. Public Comments
12. Adjournment

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 22, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
SUBJECT: May Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 1, 2003, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be discussed:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements

COMMISSIONER MOUTON

4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season

WINTON VIDRINE

6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels

Page 2
Commission Meeting
April 22, 2003

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

8. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA
Hunting Rules & Regulations

9. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease

10. Set September 2003 Meeting Date

11. Public Comments

JHJ:sch

cc: Jim Patton
Phil Bowman
John Roussel
Craig Lamendola
Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Chiefs
Marianne Burke

To Susan

Date 4/22 Time 12:35 AM PM

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M.R. Dennison

of _____

Phone (_____) _____
Area Code Number Extension

TELEPHONED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE CALL	
CALLED TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	URGENT	

RETURNED YOUR CALL

Message The agenda is
"OK" with him

Cathy
Operator

C O V E R



FAX

To: Terry Denmon

Fax #: 318-361-5036

Subject: Agenda

Date: April 17, 2003

Pages: 3, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Please call me after you have reviewed the attached agenda for the May 1 Commission Meeting.
Thanks and have a GOOD EASTER!!

From the desk of...

Susan Hawkins

La. Dept. Of Wildlife & Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

225-765-2806
Fax: 225-765-0948

, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
SUBJECT: May Commission Meeting Agenda

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Page 2
Commission Meeting
, 2003

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

8. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA
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10. Set September 2003 Meeting Date

11. Public Comments

JHJ:sch

cc: Jim Patton
Phil Bowman
John Roussel
Craig Lamendola
Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Chiefs
Marianne Burke

Hawkins, Susan

From: Foote, Karen

Sent: Monday, April 14, 2003 10:51 AM

To: Roussel, John E

Cc: Abbott, Janet; Bourgeois, Martin; Porch, Pat; Hawkins, Susan

Subject: May Commission agenda- Marine Fisheries

Declaration of Emergency - Setting 2003 Spring Shrimp Season - Martin Bourgeois

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
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(225) 765-2800

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife,
Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries and Confidential
Assistant

FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - May 1, 2003

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Hawkins by Wednesday, April 16th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, May 1st** Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on May 1st. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

JHJ/sch
cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Tommy Prickett
Bennie Fontenot ✓
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

Susan:
I have no agenda items from Ouland Fisheries & Trucks

Bennie

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

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M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

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Winton Vidrine ✓
Tommy Prickett
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

Handwritten notes:
- "Report" written vertically
- Large signature/initials at the bottom right

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

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Assistant

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Winton Vidrine
Tommy Prickett
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie ✓
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

None Brandt

State of Louisiana

To: Susan



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
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M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

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Assistant

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Tommy Prickett ✓
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

Public Comment - Seasons & Regulations for resident game

*Added by T. Prickett:
Division Report CWD*

Hawkins, Susan

From: Bowman, Philip
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2003 9:53 AM
To: Hawkins, Susan
Subject: FW: May Commission Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: henrymouton@star-service.com [mailto:henrymouton@star-service.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2003 9:39 AM
To: bowman_pe@wlf.state.la.us
Cc: lee@ckor.com; tdd@denmon.com; jenkins_jh@wlf.state.la.us
Subject: May Commission Meeting

Phil in the First part of the meeting have Sidney Coffe do a Presentation on Americas Wetland Campaign. I know this is a busy meeting with the Setting of a Shrimp Seasons but this is a great opportunity to show many people the plan we have to save our coast. I think I am the only Commission member that has seen this preentation and this effects the shrimpers. Can you put this on the Agenda prior to the Agenda item for setting Shrimp Seasons? Henry

April 4, 2003

TO: Susan Hawkins

FROM: Henry Mouton

SUBJECT: May LDWF Commission Meeting

Susan,

I want to put on the Agenda a presentation by Sidney Coffee in the Governor's Office about the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands. I would like this Agenda Item put prior to the Agenda Item to set the Shrimp Season. This Presentation will take about 30 minutes and I want all in the audience to see this Presentation as to what we must do to save our Coast and the battles we have laid ahead. The Shrimpers need to see what we are trying to do save their Estuaries and with the media there, this is a great time to get more coverage on this plan. You can reach Sidney at her office, 342-4844 or on her Cell Phone at 603-3698. Sidney and I have talked about this and she will send someone to do this, as she will be out. I think I am the only Commissioner that has seen this Presentation.

Henry

CC. Jimmy Jordan

April 4, 2003

TO: Susan Hawkins

FROM: Henry Mouton

SUBJECT: May LDWF Commission Meeting

Susan,

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Henry

C.C. Jimmy To K12

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
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(225) 765-2800

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife,
Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries and Confidential
Assistant

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cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Tommy Prickett
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

NO ITEMS

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
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M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

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Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

TRANSACTION REPORT

P. 01

APR-04-03 FRI 11:27 AM

DATE	START	RECEIVER	TX TIME	PAGES	TYPE	NOTE	M#	DP
APR-04	11:26 AM	SEAFOOD MKTG BOARD	45"	1	SEND	OK	329	

TOTAL : 45S PAGES: 1

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
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M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

April 2, 2003

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Assistant

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~~5th~~ - MAY 5th - LAFFITE

EARLY - NORTH WIND

ZONE 2 - 5 DAYS TO LATE
10th

ZONE 2 - 5th -

ZONE 2 - 5th

EARLY AS POSSIBLE

MAY 5th - 24% LAKE AREA 100 / 60th

MAY 13th

LAKE PONCHATRAIN - MAY 26th

PRICE

NMFS

SHRIMP

MBT

ENFORCEMENT AVIATION REPORT
APRIL, 2003

185-Amph. - 61092
Hrs. - 40.5

185-Float - 9667Q
Hrs. - 19.6

210 - 9467Y
Hrs. - 10.0

Enforcement Hours - 61.9

Other Divisions - 8.2

Total Plane Use - 70.1

TB:
Tony Denman

2

We usually poke a little
fun at our ex-employee

JM
OVER →

-30-

transported by helicopter to St. Tammany Hospital in Covington. Stogner was transported by ambulance.
The incident is still under investigation by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division.
EDITORS: For more information, contact Maj. Keith Lacaze at 225/765-2469 (lacaze_kk@wlf.state.la.us).

AGENDA
 LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
 BATON ROUGE, LA
 May 1, 2003
 10:00 AM

HANDICAP
HUNTERS
RED RIVER

- DEWITT - DONATED LANDS #2, 20 APRIL
 - STATE LAW - CHALLENGE 19 JUL
 FREE LAND 300,000 - 25,000 - APRIL

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2003
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation by Governor's Office on the Campaign to Save America's Wetlands - Henry Mouton
5. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Setting the 2003 Spring Shrimp Season - Marty Bourgeois
6. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/April - Keith LaCaze
7. Notice of Intent - Rules of the Road for Vessels - Charlie Clark
8. Fishing Week Resolution - John Sturgis
9. Public Comments - 2003-04 Hunting Seasons & General & WMA Hunting Rules & Regulations
10. Wildlife Division Report on Chronic Wasting Disease - Larry Savage
11. Set September 2003 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment

JUNE 6TH
 FLOAT PLANE

OVER TO
 CHARGE
 RETURN
 HUNT LN

MARTY BOURGEOIS	
2-1-INS. OF	
5-26-03	
OPEN -	
513	

2-3	5-26

2-2	13

21	5-13-	6.00			
22	5-13				
23	5-26-03	6.00 A.M.			