

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 3, 2005

WAYNE J. SAGRERA
CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

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

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

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

For more information, call (225) 765-2806

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
NOVEMBER 3, 2005

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Chairman Wayne Sagrera presiding.

Terry Denmon
Earl King
Frederic Miller
Patrick Morrow
Henry Mouton
Robert Samanie, III

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present.

Chairman Sagrera called for a motion for approval of the **October 6, 2005 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Samanie and seconded by Commissioner Denmon. The motion passed with no opposition.

For **Commission Special Announcements** for this month, Commissioner Denmon stated he sent to the other Commission members a media release from the National Shooting Sports Foundation that indicated the number of hunting licenses last year rose for the first time in a number of years. He hoped that the efforts by Game and Fish Departments to encourage youth, women and others to get into hunting was working. Currently, license holders represent about 5 percent of the U.S. population. Commissioner Denmon then asked the media to report the positive side of this increase.

Mr. Donald Gohmert was unable to make the meeting for a **Presentation to Joel Courtney by NRCS**.

Enforcement & Aviation Reports/October was given by Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze. A total of 537 citations and 101 written warnings were issued and agents helped with 57 public assists during the month. October was normally a month without a lot of enforcement activity with the bulk of the hunting season not open yet. Also, agents have seen that hunter participation was lower in a lot of areas which may be due to the impacts from the hurricanes and recovery work being done. Cases made during the month included over the limit of squirrels, taking two gobbler turkeys during closed season, night hunting and illegal deer hunting. Commissioner Mouton reminded the members that a letter was sent last year to the District Attorneys in the State noting the Commission's interest in prosecuting cases made by agents. He then suggested making that an

annual thing-to-do event. Chairman Sagrera asked if a motion was needed for this to happen. Mr. Don Puckett stated a 2/3 vote was needed to add the item to the agenda and then a motion would be needed requesting the Secretary send a letter on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Mouton made a motion to add the request to the agenda. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Then Commissioner Mouton made a motion to draft a letter for the Chairman's signature to be sent to the District Attorney's in the state that they hear cases made by agents. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion and it also passed with no opposition. Continuing on, Lt. Col. LaCaze stated there were 4 boating accidents which brought the total for the year to 129. Of these 4 accidents, there were 2 injuries and 1 fatality. The fatality was an elderly gentleman from Concordia Parish that may have fallen overboard while fishing in a small aluminum boat. The hours from the Aviation Report totaled 54.3 hours for the month. News Releases included a Ferriday person cited for night hunting and the arrest of a felon from Pierre Part.

2006 Turkey Season Changes and Public Comments began with Mr. Fred Kimmel stating a Notice of Intent was presented and approved at the August Meeting. Since then, public requests and other situations have occurred which has resulted in staff recommending a few minor changes. Mr. Kimmel then announced that the first change was the statewide youth hunt weekend on private lands would have a disabled hunter portion added which would allow those confined to a wheelchair the opportunity to hunt that same weekend. This request was made by several disabled hunters at the August Meeting. The second change was closing a small portion of Bossier and Webster Parishes, commonly known as Camp Minden. The Louisiana National Guard asked for a management plan several years back to improve turkey and quail habitat. Mr. Kimmel stated they have done a nice job and the Department would restock turkeys there. Closing the area after restocking would allow the turkey population to grow and expand. The third recommended change was to close Pearl River WMA to turkey hunting in 2006. This WMA has had a low population, has problems with flooding and development around the area. Also, with the passage of Hurricane Katrina, approximately 70 percent of the timber was either damaged or down and this has reduced the turkey habitat. The last change was the addition of a youth turkey hunt on the Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge. This request came from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Commissioner Denmon asked if the youth turkey hunt on the Upper Ouachita would be the only turkey season and would the Department conduct the lottery hunt. Mr. Kimmel stated that would be the only turkey season and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would conduct the lottery hunt on Upper Ouachita. Then Commissioner Denmon asked if he was correct in stating that the rule would be ratified in December and Mr. Kimmel stated that was correct.

Results of Waterfowl Opinion Survey began with Mr. Robert Helm stating there have been lots of complaints about the last several duck hunting seasons. He felt these complaints were coming from a vocal minority group of hunters. So Mr. Helm noted there was a real need to quantify the success and opinions of duck hunters and find out their feel for the duck seasons. There has also been a move nationally to get more information on the social aspect of waterfowl hunters. With these thoughts in mind, the Department approached LSU to develop a duck hunter opinion survey. At the meeting was Dr. Craig Miller who would present some of those preliminary results. Mr. Helm then noted that Dr. Miller was a professor at the School of Renewable Natural Resources specializing in human dimensions and policy-type issues. Dr. Miller stated this study was to quantify what was being heard from hunters to scope how widespread their different attitudes were. Some of the same questions were used for a national duck hunter survey Dr. Miller was involved with during the past summer. The sample consisted of an 8-page questionnaire mailed to 6,500 hunters and of these, 1,333 were removed for incorrect addresses and non-deliverables. Response rate was 56 percent which Dr. Miller felt was a good result. Of those, 76 percent of the hunters indicated they hunted ducks during the 2004-2005 season in Louisiana. Cameron Parish had the highest number of duck hunters followed by Vermilion, Terrebonne, and Plaquemines Parishes. Thirty-five percent of the hunters hunted on duck leases, 26 percent hunt on property owned by someone else and 24 percent hunt on wildlife management areas. In regards to harvest, 15 percent of the hunters stated they did not kill any ducks this past year, 47 percent harvested between 1 and 10 ducks, 24 percent took between 11 and 20 and 13 percent harvested over 20 ducks. Hunters equate quality of the hunt with their harvest, commented Dr. Miller. Twelve percent of the hunters stated they hunted ducks, but then noted they did not hunt any days. Thirty-seven percent of the hunters hunted less than 10 days and about 10 percent were dedicated hunters that hunted almost the entire season. Dr. Miller felt the harvest and days afield results were consistent with what was found in other states especially those in the Mississippi Flyway. Also, he noted that the Federal Government used the days afield as a surrogate for measuring satisfaction. Hunter participation was highest in December followed by November and January. Then a question on the survey was to rate the quality of duck hunting in Louisiana for the 2004-2005 season on a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being poor and 10 being excellent. Dr. Miller presented a graph that showed the majority of hunters were rating the quality of duck hunting in Louisiana poor to low. Then they asked another question on what they liked or did not like about duck hunting. The days hunted was the lowest as far as dissatisfied persons, 71 percent were dissatisfied with the number of shots taken, 81 percent were dissatisfied with number of ducks seen and 78 percent were dissatisfied with number of ducks harvested. The next series of questions asked hunters to compare the 2004-2005 season with the 1999-2000 season. About half of the

hunters were dissatisfied with the days hunted compared with 5 years ago. But the results from shots taken, ducks seen and ducks harvested showed three-quarters of the hunters were dissatisfied with this past year compared with 5 years ago. So, this related to the fact that 88 percent of hunters felt this past season was worse than 5 years ago. Comparing bag limits for the 2004-2005 season with the 1999-2000 season, 84 percent of hunters were not bagging the limits for the number of days hunted as compared with 5 years ago. Preferences for season length showed 45 percent wanted to stay with the current 60 day season even if it negatively affected duck populations and 23 percent wanted to go to a 50 day season. Looking at daily bag limit preferences, 38 percent favored the current 6 day bag even if it negatively affected duck populations and 26 percent and 25 percent favored 5 and 4 duck limits respectively. Looking at the options for a pintail season within a season, 44 percent favored the shorter season if they corresponded to the peak migration for those species and 41 percent had no opinion. Preferences for pintail and canvasback seasons showed that 42 percent wanted these seasons late in the duck season, 18 percent in the middle of the season and 11 percent early in the season. The next question, which was also on the national survey, was hunter preference on whether to have a season within a season or allowing the harvest of one per day for the full length of the season of pintails, canvasback, hen mallards or mottled ducks. Sixty percent favored the one per day option for the full season. Concluding, Dr. Miller stated the level of dissatisfaction was widespread. There was no pattern of age, region or experience. Overall, hunters were looking at the current trends to be worst than what they were 5 years ago. Hunter overall preference for the pintail and canvasback seasons was to optimize harvest. Dr. Miller added that the results of the study will be shared with other states in the Mississippi Flyway. Another question posed but not discussed was what did the hunters think were some problems. Hunters up north were saying Louisiana had their season too late and were shooting too many ducks and hunters in Louisiana were saying that those up north were shooting too many ducks and short stopping the ducks.

Commissioner Morrow asked how many state duck stamps were issued and Mr. Helm stated the trend for sales has been declining with the number being 75,000 last year. Then Commissioner Morrow stated he was just trying to get the percentage of surveys sent out based on license sales and felt it was about 10 percent. Dr. Miller stated that was a very high percentage and added they grossly over sampled what was needed for statistical purposes. Dr. Miller felt the 3,000 responses were a good representation and it did not miss any parish or region of the state. Commissioner Morrow asked if the breakdown was by zip code? Dr. Miller answered it was by parish and where the people hunt and live. Mr. Helm stated there were three separate mailings and this helped increase the response rate. Commissioner Miller asked if there was any comparison made with age and the number of years of hunting experience and how they looked

at things. Dr. Miller stated he looked at both age and years of experience at duck hunting in general and in Louisiana and found no discernable pattern or difference across the age or levels of experience.

Recognize 2006 Duck Stamp Artist was the second item handled by Mr. Robert Helm. The winning entry will be used for the 2006 Louisiana duck stamp. This was the 18th year for the competition and was implemented to generate funds for habitat conservation work. Over \$8.5 million has been generated with most of the funds being used to purchase additional land for the WMA system. This was the second year for the series, Retrievers Saves Game, and the yellow lab was chosen for this competition. There were only 8 entries for this competition which represented the lowest number to date and staff felt impacts from the hurricanes was the reason. The five judges for this year's competition were Dr. Headley Adelman, Mr. Jerry Bower, Dr. Clink Jeske, Mr. Bob Kennon and Mr. Mike Benge. The winning artist was Mr. Ed Suthoff from the Mississippi Gulf Coast that was now living in northeast Arkansas. Second and third place winners were Mr. Tony Bernard from Lafayette and Mr. Wayne Atkinson from Texas. Mr. Helm noted the winner, Mr. Suthoff, also won the 1993 Mississippi Duck Stamp contest and was chosen as the Artist of the Year for the last 2 years at the Louisiana Wildfowl Carvers Festival.

The last item for Mr. Robert Helm was to **Recognize Wildlife Division Wood Duck Banding Region**. At the November Meeting, staff recognizes the region that did the best job banding wood ducks. Before announcing the winner, Mr. Helm noted there are no population surveys for wood ducks due to their secretive nature. The number one monitoring tool for these ducks is leg banding. There are two techniques for banding wood ducks in Louisiana and these are banding nesting hens found in wood duck boxes and catching resident birds from July through September using rocket nets in wetlands areas. After banding efforts fell off several years ago, staff developed an annual award in an attempt to resurrect banding. Banding efforts this year totaled 1,700 wood ducks and this included 5 of the 7 regions banding over 200 ducks each. Region 7 was the winner for this year banding 407 birds using the rocket nets. Mr. Helm then introduced Mr. Randy Myers, District Supervisor and Mr. Mike Perot, Wood Duck Coordinator and expressed his appreciation for their efforts.

Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Helm if the first survey flight was scheduled for the next week. Mr. Helm stated the northwest portion of the state was flown the day before the meeting, the central and Catahoula area was being flown that day and the coastal zone flights would occur the next week. Commissioner Miller then asked for a copy of the survey when completed.

Declaration of Emergency - Menhaden Season began with Mr. Toby Gascon thanking the Commission for adding this item to the agenda. He noted they suffered lots of damage from the hurricanes but have been able to reopen plants in Abbeville and Moss Point. The industry anticipated a possibility that they could make up for loss production by asking for a two week extension. But with the cool weather, lack of labor and other problems, they decided to close the fishing season at the normal time. Mr. Gascon then stated they would not need the two week extension. He added they would go back and see about rebuilding and getting the plants back into operation. Mr. Gascon offered the Commission the use of any of their equipment or facilities in any recovery efforts.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **March 2006 Meeting** on Thursday, March 2, 2006, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Sagrera asked for **Public Comments** and none were heard.

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



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

DL:scf

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Chairman Sagrera asked for **Public Comments** and none were heard.

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

Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

DL:scf



Survey says duck hunting quality declines

By **JOE MACALUSO**

Advocate outdoors writer

More than 80 percent of the state's duck hunters responding to a survey said hunting in the state is worse than it was five years ago.

That statistic and others showed up in a report issued during Thursday's Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting.

LSU professor Craig Miller, working with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, told the seven-man commission that 88 percent of the 2,196 hunters responding to the eight-page questionnaire described the 2004-05 duck season as "much worse" or "worse" than the banner 1999-2000 season.

Moreover, 80 percent of the hunters rated the 2004-05 season poor to very poor.

Miller said those opinions were shared by all hunters no matter the age, location or hunting experience.

"We needed to get a feel for the duck season. We heard complaints from lots of duck hunters, but we wanted to find out if those complaints were coming from a small but very vocal minority of hunters," State Waterfowl Study leader Robert Helm said. "We wanted to know hunters' preferences, if they wanted a shorter season or a lower duck bag (limit)."

Helm said Miller has conducted similar studies throughout the 13-state Mississippi Flyway Council.

"There is a move afoot nationally to study the social aspect of hunting, and that's why we contacted Craig," Helm said.

"His surveys are being used by several states and the (U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service."

Miller said Louisiana's results are similar to opinions of hunters in other states as far away as Minnesota and Illinois, and Helm said the results will be used to construct future Louisiana seasons within the federal framework for waterfowl seasons.

In other action, the LWFC learned Enforcement Division agents issued 537 citations and 101 written warnings during October.

Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze said hunting efforts are low around the state and added agents continued to make cases of night hunting in several areas of the state.

Commission member Henry Mouton of Lafayette asked to suspend the meeting's rules and allow a vote on an LWFC resolution asking districts attorneys throughout Louisiana to prosecute wildlife cases.

Both matters passed unanimously.

The State's Wildlife Division presented four changes to the 2006 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations package that will be ratified at the LWFC's Dec. 1 meeting.

Topping that list was a move that allows wheelchair-confined hunters of any age to participate in a special hunt held the weekend before the March 25 statewide opening and a decision that closes the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area to turkey hunting for the 2006 season.

"The area had a low turkey population and 70 percent of the timber was down or damaged in the WMA," LDWF biologist Randy Myers said. "Hurricane Katrina reduced the quality of the turkey habitat, and turkeys are using the roads now."

Other changes included closing parts of Bossier and Webster parishes in the area of Camp Minden for a turkey restocking program and the opening of a youth lottery hunt for the Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge.

The LWFC honored Ed Suthoff, the winner of the 2006 State Waterfowl Stamp contest. Suthoff is from Pascagoula, Miss. It's the second year for hunting dogs to grace the stamp. The current stamp is of a black Labrador retriever and the Suthoff's winner was of a yellow Labrador. Tony Bernard of Lafayette was judged second and Wayne Atkinson of Texas finished third.

After listing an item for the extension of the menhaden season, the LWFC was told that the menhaden industry in the state shut down Wednesday and plant owners would not ask for an extension to the season.

The commission also voted its March 2006 meeting for March 2 in Baton Rouge.

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COMMISSION MEETING
ROLL CALL

Thursday, November 3, 2005
Baton Rouge, LA
Wildlife and Fisheries Building

	Attended	Absent
Wayne Sagrera (Chairman)	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>
Terry Denmon	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>
Fred Miller	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>
Henry Mouton	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>
Earl King	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>
Bobby Samanie	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>
Patrick Morrow	<u>✓</u>	<u>—</u>

Mr. Chairman:

There are 7 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.
Secretary Landreneau is also present.

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BATON ROUGE, LA
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- ✓8. Recognize 2006 Duck Stamp Artist - Robert Helm
- ✓9. Recognize Wildlife Division Wood Duck Banding Region - Robert Helm
- ✓10. Declaration of Emergency - Menhaden Season - John Roussel
11. Set March 2006 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment

LaCaze, B "Keith"

From: Einck, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2005 1:32 PM
To: Burke, Marianne
Subject: LDWF Region 4 Enforcement News (Oct. 25, 2005)

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:

Adam Einck
News and Media Relations Officer
(aeinck@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-299

FERRIDAY MAN CITED FOR NIGHT HUNTING

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement agents cited a Concordia Parish man for alleged night hunting violations near Dunbarton on Oct. 15.

Agents stopped Gerry D. Buckles Jr., 35, of Ferriday after he was spotted hunting from a four-wheeler with the aid of a spotlight. Agents found Buckles in possession of a .22 caliber rifle and cited him for hunting wild quadrupeds during illegal hours and hunting from a moving vehicle.

Hunting wild quadrupeds during illegal hours and hunting from a moving vehicle both carry fines between \$250-\$500, or jail time up to 90 days, or both plus court costs.

Agents participating in the case were Lt. Kenneth Hedricks and Sr. Agent Joey Tarver.

EDITORS: For more information contact Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze at klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov or 225-765-2469.

-30-

LaCaze, B "Keith"

From: Einck, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2005 1:34 PM
To: Burke, Marianne
Subject: LDWF Region 9 Enforcement News (Oct. 25, 2005)

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:

Adam Einck
News and Media Relations Officer
(aeinck@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-300

FELON HUNTER ARRESTED BY L.D.W.F. ENFORCEMENT AGENTS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents arrested a Pierre Part man on Oct. 17 in Assumption Parish for alleged hunting violations as well as criminal charges for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Elray Domingue, 37, was stopped by agents to perform a license and limit check after being alerted to hunting in a wooded area near a subdivision. They allegedly discovered that he was in possession of three squirrels and a 12-gauge shotgun that was capable of holding more than three shotgun shells. He was also unable to produce a resident hunting license.

As the agents were escorting Domingue from the woods, he bolted and the agents gave chase. When they caught Domingue, he offered resistance before the agents could control and arrest him.

A subsequent search resulted in the discovery of a bottle with what appeared to be marijuana cigarettes on Domingue. A criminal history check revealed that Domingue had a previous felony conviction, which prohibits him from possessing a firearm.

Domingue was booked into the Assumption Parish Jail for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, two counts of resisting arrest, possession of marijuana, criminal trespass, hunting with an unplugged gun and hunting without a resident hunting license. Domingue's shotgun was seized and is being held for evidence. The squirrels were donated to charity. The container of suspected marijuana was seized and sent to the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab in Baton Rouge for chemical analysis.

The penalty for being a felon in possession of a firearm is between a 10-15 year jail sentence without the possibility of probation, parole or suspended sentence, and with a fine between \$1,000-\$5,000. The maximum penalties for resisting arrest are a fine \$500 or six months in jail or both. The maximum penalties for possession of marijuana are a fine of \$500 or six months in jail or both. The penalty for hunting with an unplugged shotgun is a fine between \$250-\$500 or up to 90 days in jail or

both plus court costs. Hunting without a resident hunting license is a Class 1 offense and the fine is \$50. The penalty for criminal trespass is a fine up to \$500

Agents involved in this case were Sr. Agent Winston Michel and Agent Robert Turner.

EDITORS: For more information, contact Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze at 225-765-2469 or klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov.

-30-

MONTHLY BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT

October 2005

	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Number of Boating Accidents Reported:	4	129
Number of Injuries:	2	73
Number of Fatalities:	1	32

10/9/05 St. Martin Parish

Vessel with 4 occupants struck a submerged object in Henderson Lake. Property damage only.

10/13/05 Concordia Parish

Fisherman apparently fell overboard while fishing in a small aluminum boat in a borrow pit on Red River WMA and drowned.

10/23/05 St. Mary Parish

Vessel struck a submerged pipeline in the Atchafalaya River causing property damage to the vessel.

10/29/05 St. Mary Parish

Operator lost control of vessel after it grounded in Mugger Bayou. Vessel struck the bank and sank. Both occupants suffered minor injuries.

Notice: This report only represents accidents reported to and investigated by the Enforcement Division. Some or all of these accidents are still under investigation and cause or fault may or may not have been determined. Information provided is for informational purposes only. For more information contact Lt. Colonel Brian Spillman, Boating Law Administrator at 225-765-2987.

ENFORCEMENT AVIATION REPORT
OCTOBER 2005

185 – Amph. – 61092
Hrs. - 8.9

185 – Amph. – 1322R
Hrs. - 29.6

210 – 9467Y
Hrs. - 15.8

Enforcement Hours - 20.4

Wildlife Hours- 6.6

Marine Fish Hours- 12.4

Inland Fish Hours- 0

Fur & Refuge Hours- 11.7

Office of the Secretary 3.2

Other State Departments 0

Total Plane Use - 54.3

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

OCTOBER, 2005

REGION 1: MINDEN

**PARISHES: BIENVILLE, BOSSIER,
CADDO, CLAIBORNE,
WEBSTER, RED RIVER,
DESOTO**

TOTAL CASES	55
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
7	Hunting W/O Resident License
1	Hunting W/O Non-Resident License
3	Bow Hunt W/O Bow License
4	Hunting W/Unplugged Gun
2	Hunt Wild Game Quadrupeds Illegal Hours Or W/Artificial Light
2	Take And//Or Possession Over Limit Squirrels
3	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
2	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegal Hours Or W/Artificial Light
1	Possession Over Limit Deer
1	Failure To Wear Hunter Orange
1	Take/Possess Spotted Fawn
2	Hunt Turkey W/O Resident Big Game License
2	Hunt Turkey W/O Turkey Stamp
2	Hunt Turkey W/Rifle
2	Hunt Turkey Closed Season
2	Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area

1	Take Over Limit Turkey
1	Possession Freshly Killed MGB Closed Season
3	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
2	Hunt On WMA Without WMA Hunting Permit
2	Illegal Possession Drugs Or Marijuana
2	Intentional Littering
3	Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries
1	Obtain License By Fraud
2	Flight From An Officer
1	Driving Without Operator's License

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 17

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Hunting W/O Resident License
2	Failure To Wear Hunter Orange
12	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
2	Hunt On WMA Without WMA Hunting Permit

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
<p>2-Turkey Gobblers (Donated); 1-223 Cal Rifle (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Shotgun & 6 12 Ga. Shotgun Shells (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Camouflage Case (Being Held At R-1 Office); 21 – Squirrels (18 Donated, 3 Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Resident Basic Hunting License, 1 – Resident Big Game License, 1 – WMA Permit, & 1 – Hip Certification (All Being Held At R-1 Office); 5 – Grams Crack Cocaine (Sent To Crime Lab); 1 – Crack Pipe, 1 – Piece Paper Used To Contain Cocaine (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Ruger 10/22 (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Night Blaster Spotlight (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – High Point .380 Rifle (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Matthews MQ-32; (Being Held At R-1 Office); Quiver With 4 Arrows (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Release & Camo. Mask (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Winchester 12 Ga. Shotgun W/14 Shells & Knife (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Springhill Arms 12 Ga. Shotgun W/16 Shells & 1 Knife (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Wood Duck Drake (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – 50 Cal. Muzzleloader (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Spotted Fawn (Donated)</p>

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 1:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
00	Boating
00	Commercial Fishing
1	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
14	Miscellaneous
00	Recreational Fishing
38	State Hunting/Trapping
17	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 1

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance

REGION 2: MONROE

**PARISHES: E. CARROLL, JACKSON,
LINCOLN, MOREHOUSE,
OUACHITA, RICHALND,
UNION, W. CARROLL**

TOTAL CASES	49
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating
1	Hunt Without A Basic Resident License
1	Angle Without A Resident License
7	Angle Without A Non-resident License
6	Hunt Or Take Deer From A Public Road
6	Hunt From A Moving Vehicle
3	Discharge Firearm From A Public Road
1	Not Abiding By WMA Rules And Regulations
1	Hunt MGB Without A Federal Duck Stamp
1	Hunt Squirrels Closed Season
8	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
1	Possession Of Illegally Taken Deer
3	Illegal Possession Of Drugs
1	Illegal Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
2	Angle Without A Resident Pole License
1	Hunt With An Unplugged Shotgun

3	Operate ATV On Public Road
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WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Operate Unregistered Motor Boat

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
2-Buck Deer (4 Point and 8 point); 1- Garity Spotlight; 1 --Remington 700 30:06 With Scope; 1 -Squirrel; 1-Bag of Marijuana; 1-Bay State 16 Gauge Shotgun; 19- 16 Gauge Shotgun Shells; 1- Hypodermic Needle; 1- Black Canister Containing Meth.; 1- Glass Pipe; 1- Marijuana Cigarette; 1- Muzzleloader Rifle; 1- Spotlight

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2 :

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Boating
-0-	Commercial Fishing
-0-	Federal Migratory
-0-	Littering
7	Miscellaneous
10	Recreational Fishing
29	State Hunting/Trapping
1	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 13

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
13	Public Assistance

REGION 3: ALEXANDRIA

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

TOTAL CASES	70
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
6	Hunt W/O Resident License
2	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
1	Bow Hunt W/O Basic Hunt License
5	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange
2	Hunt W/O Muzzleloader License
1	Hunt W/O Non-Resident License
2	Poss. Of Buckshot During Closed Deer Season While Small Game Htg.
1	Possess Over Limit Of Squirrels
8	Hunt Deer Illegal Method
1	Fail To Comply W/Hunt Safety Regulations
1	Hunt Turkey Closed Season
1	Hunt With Unplugged Gun
3	Angling W/O A License
3	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License
12	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

4	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit
1	Operate Vehicle Off Road
1	Fail To Check In
1	Take Spotted Fawn
1	Hunt In Restricted Area
1	Sell And Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood License
1	Sell And Buy Fish W/O Resident Wholesale-Retail Dealers License
1	Filing False Application
5	Operate ATC On Public Road
2	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
1	Littering
2	Possession Of Schedule II Drugs

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 11

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Hunt W/O Resident License
1	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange
1	Supervise More Than One Youth During Youth Hunt
5	Fail To Check In
1	Loaded Gun In Vehicle

2	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange Cap
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CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
15 Squirrels, 1 Spotted Fawn And 2 Rifles

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Boating
2	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
11	Miscellaneous
6	Recreational Fishing
50	State Hunting/Trapping
11	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 12

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
12	Public Assistance

REGION 4: FERRIDAY

**PARISHES: CALDWELL, CATAHOULA,
CONCORDIA, FRANKLLIN,
LASALLE, MADISON, TENSAS**

TOTAL CASES	37
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Boating Safety Violations
3	Angling W/O A License
1	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License
2	Hunting W/O Resident License
2	Hunting From Moving Vehicle
2	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
1	Hunt From Public Road
1	Take O/L Of Squirrels
1	Hunt W/O Muzzleloader License
15	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
6	Hunt On WMA Without WMA Hunting Permit
1	Intentional Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 14

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
14	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
9 Squirrels; 1 rifle

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
2	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
4	Recreational Fishing
30	State Hunting/Trapping
14	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 18

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
18	Public Assistance

REGION 5: LAKE CHARLES

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

TOTAL CASES	49
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating
3	Angling W/O A License
2	Take Or Poss. U/S Red Drum
2	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood License
2	Fail To Maintain Records
2	Hunting W/O Resident License
1	Poss. Of Buckshot During Closed Season
2	Hunting W/O A Resident Big Game License
5	Fail To Wear Hunter's Orange
1	Hunting W/O Muzzleloader License (Res.)
1	Hunting MGB Unplugged Gun
2	Wanton Waste Of MGB
2	Take/Possess O/L Of Ducks
1	Hunting MGB W/O State Hunting License
4	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
1	Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana

1	Illegal Spotlighting From Public Road
1	Intentional Littering
3	Gross Littering
1	Other Than WLF
7	Operative ATV Vehicle On Public Road
1	Obtain License By Fraud

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 6

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Angling W/O A License.
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement
4	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
2 U/S Red Drums; 2 Bullfrogs RTW; 44 Lbs. Of Shrimp; 3 Perch RTW; 1 Fishing License; 5 Teal; Litter; Marijuana, 2 Drug Pipes

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Boating

4	Commercial Fishing
6	Federal Migratory
4	Littering
11	Miscellaneous
5	Recreational Fishing
12	State Hunting/Trapping
6	Written Warnings
4	Wildlife Management Area

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Public Assistance

REGION 6: OPELOUSAS

**PARISHES: IBERIA, IBERVILLE,
PT. COUPEE, LAFAYETTE,
ST. LANDRY, ST. MARTIN,
W.B.R.**

TOTAL CASES	59
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating
4	Intentional Littering
4	Hunt W/O Resident License
11	Angling W/O License
1	Bow Hunt W/O Bow License
2	Hunt With Unplugged Gun
7	Hunt WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit
7	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
1	Possession Of Live Alligators W/O Permit
2	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood License
1	Take Or Possess Over Limit Of Squirrels
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
2	Hunt W/O Resident License
1	Careless Operation Of A Vehicle
2	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegal Hours Or With Artificial Light
2	Hunt From A Moving Vehicle

1	Angling W/O Non-Resident License
1	Take/Possess Over Limit Fresh Water Game Fish

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 24

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating
8	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
2	Fail To Comply With Hunter Safety Requirements
10	Angling W/O License
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1 Boat, Motor, Trailer, 7 Self-Clearing Permits, 2 Alligators, 13 Squirrels, 7 Black Bass, 1 Deer, 1 Rifle, 1 Rod and Reel, 55 White Perch

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
8	Boating
2	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory

4	Littering
15	Miscellaneous
15	Recreational Fishing
15	State Hunting/Trapping
24	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
2	Public Assistance

REGION 7: BATON ROUGE

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

TOTAL CASES	78
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
5	Boating
13	Angling Without Basic Resident License
1	Angling Without Non-Resident License
6	Hunting Without Basic Resident License
1	Hunting Without Big Game License
2	Bow Hunt Without Bow License
5	Hunting With Unplugged Gun
2	Hunt Deer Illegal Methods
3	Hunt Deer From A Public Road
3	Hunt Deer From A Moving Vehicle
2	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
1	Use Archery Equipment With Illegal Electric Sights
7	Violate Rules And Regulations On Wildlife Management Area
1	Failure To Abide By Commission Rules And Regulations
1	Hunt On Wildlife Management Area Without Hunting Permit
2	Possession Of Spotted Fawn

1	Hunt On Federal Refuge With Lead Shot
2	Hunt On Federal Refuge Without Permit
2	Hunt Migratory Game Birds Over Baited Area
1	Placing Bait To Take Migratory Game Birds
2	Possess Over Limit Of Doves
1	Possess Live Wild Quadruped Without A Permit (Deer)
1	Failure To Comply With Scenic Rivers Rules & Regulations
13	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Not Abiding By Wildlife Management Area Rules & Regulations

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1—18' Fiberglass Boat—Stored At Region VII 1—Hoyt Compound Bow—Stored At Region VII 4—Arrows—Stored At Region VII 1—Q-Beam Light—Stored At Region VII 2—Rifles—Stored At Region VII 4—Deer—Turned Over To Department Biologists 1—Deer—Donated 36—Doves—Donated

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
5	Boating
-0-	Commercial Fishing

8	Federal Migratory
13	Littering
1	Miscellaneous
14	Recreational Fishing
37	State Hunting/Trapping
3	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 6

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Public Assistance: Assist Motorists

REGION 8: NEW ORLEANS

**PARISHES: PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD,
ORLEANS, JEFFERSON,
ST. CHARLES**

TOTAL CASES	21
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
6	Boating
1	Angling W/O A License
1	Angling W/O A License Non-Resident
1	Angling W/O Saltwater Lic. Non-Resident
1	Take Or Poss. Undersized Spotted Sea Trout(Recreational)
1	Fail To Comply With Charter Boat Regulations
1	Take Or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Lic.
1	Sell And/Or Buy Fish Without A Retail Seafood Dealers License
1	Fail To Comply W/Game Fish Shipping Regulations
1	Fail To Comply W/Aquaculture Fish Regulations
1	Removing Contents From Legal Crab Traps
1	Possess Wild Quadrupeds W/O A Lic.
2	Illegal Possession Of Marijuana
1	Operating A Vessel While Intoxicated
1	State Interstate Commerce Violation

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 2

TOTAL 2	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Boating

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
Returned to Water.....70 Lbs. Of Crabs.....Spotted Sea Trout(9); Sold.....50 Lbs. Shrimp @ Bid For \$98.39; Donated.....Rabbits(4).....Red Drum(8).....Spotter Sea Trout(3) Hardware Confiscated.....1 Small Bag Of Vegetable Matter.....Rod And Reel(1)Purchase Invoices(4)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8:

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

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
2	Public Assistance

REGION 9: SCHRIEVER

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

TOTAL CASES	119
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
17	Boating
39	Angling Without Basic License
2	Angling Without Non-Resident License
8	Angling Without Saltwater License
1	Take Over Limit Red Drum On Water
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations Of WMA By Commercial Activity
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations Of WMA By Night Time Activity
2	Resisting An Officer
1	DWI By Boat
2	Obstruction Of Justice
2	Littering
1	Criminal Trespass
1	Possession Of Marijuana
1	Possession Of Firearm By Convicted Felon
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
9	Take Undersized Recreational Red Drum

6	Take Undersized Recreational Spotted Sea Trout
5	Take Undersized Recreational Black Drum
2	Take Over Limit Recreational Black Drum
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Vessel License
1	Remove Contents Of Legal Crab Traps
2	Take Shrimp With Illegal Gear
1	Leave Shrimp Net Unattended Without Tag
2	Hunting Without Resident License
1	Hunting With Unplugged Gun
4	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds During Illegal Hours
2	Hunting MGB Illegal Hours
1	Wanton Waste Of MGB
1	Hunting Ducks Closed Season

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 23

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
12	Angling Without A Basic License
1	Angling Without A Non-Resident License
6	Angling Without A Saltwater License
2	Boating
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
420 Lbs. Shrimp Sold \$546.00; 40 Lbs. Shrimp; 2 Catfish; 13 Crabs; 32 Black Drum; 16 Red Drum; 2 Black Bass; 3 Mourning Doves; 1 Collared Dove; 31 Sea Trout; 1 Rabbit; 26 Mottled Ducks; 1 Teal; 3 Squirrels; 4 Shotguns; 1 Skiff; 1 Shrimp Net; 3 Rods And Reels; 1 Butterfly Net; 1 Q-Beam Light; 1 Commercial License; 2 Skimmer Nets; 1 Sack; 3 Weights; 1 Marijuana Cigarette; 13 Non-Descriptive White Tablets; Various Shotgun Shells

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9:

TOTAL 142	DESCRIPTION
17	Boating
7	Commercial Fishing
4	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
8	Miscellaneous
74	Recreational Fishing
7	State Hunting/Trapping
23	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Public Assistance

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
	OYSTER SEASON SHUT DOWN DUE TO HURRICANES

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 1

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	No Basic Fishing License

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR OSF:

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

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
	Public Assistance

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

STATEWIDE

TOTAL CASES	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
	**SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT WAS UTILIZED TO ASSIST
	LSP WITH CLOSING OUT APPROXIMATELY 23,000 - 911
	EMERGENCY CALLS FROM HURRICANE KATRINA.
	ALSO, USED AS SUPPORT STAFF FOR COMPLETING FEMA
	PAPERWORK.**

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SIU:

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

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
	Public Assistance

TOTAL CASES: 537

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 101

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 57

Summary of Proposed Changes to the Notice of Intent for the 2006 Turkey Hunting Regulations

Four changes/additions to the turkey hunting regulations are proposed:

1. The statewide private lands youth hunt is expanded to include wheelchair-confined hunters of any age. This recommendation is in response to a request by disabled hunters at the August commission meeting. Disabled non-youth hunters must have a Physically Challenged Hunter Permit with wheelchair classification to participate.
2. A small portion of Bossier and Webster Parishes will be closed. This area encompasses Camp Minden (formerly the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant). Wild turkeys are nearly absent from this area. The Louisiana Army National Guard has made significant improvements to the habitat on Camp Minden so the department has agreed to release turkeys on the site. Closure is necessary to protect the released birds while the population is growing and expanding.
3. Pearl River WMA will be closed. This area has a low turkey population that has been problematic for several years. The original recommendation reduced the season from 25 days in 2005 to 9 days in 2006. Hurricane Katrina significantly reduced the quality of the turkey habitat in this area. Closure is recommended to protect the remaining birds while the habitat recovers.
4. A youth turkey season is added for Upper Ouachita NWR. The USFWS has requested the addition of this youth lottery hunt. This refuge has not had any turkey season in the past.

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the turkey rules and regulations for the 2006 season.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§113. Turkey Hunting Regulations

A. Daily limit is one gobbler, two gobblers per season. Taking of hen turkeys, including bearded hens, is illegal. Still hunting only. Use of dogs, baiting, electronic calling devices and live decoys is illegal. Turkeys may be hunted with shotguns, including muzzleloading shotguns, using shot not larger than #2 lead or BB steel shot, and bow and arrow but by no other means. Shooting turkeys from a moving or stationary vehicle is prohibited. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells prohibited.

B. No person shall hunt, trap or take turkeys by the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area. Baiting means placing, exposing, depositing or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take turkeys.

C. A baited area is any area where corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed capable of luring, attracting or enticing turkeys is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered. Such areas remain baited areas for 15 days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed.

D. Wildlife agents are authorized to close such baited areas and to place signs in the immediate vicinity designating closed zones and dates of closure.

E. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries strongly discourages feeding agricultural grains to wild turkeys as this practice increases the risk of birds contracting potentially lethal diseases. Repeatedly placing grain in the same area may expose otherwise healthy birds to disease contaminated soils, grain containing lethal toxins and other diseased turkeys using the same feeding site. Properly distributed food plots (clovers, wheat, millet and chufa) are far more desirable for turkeys and have the added benefit of appealing to a wide variety of wildlife.

F. It is unlawful to take from the wild or possess in captivity any live wild turkeys or their eggs. No pen raised turkeys from within or without the state shall be liberated (released) within the state.

G. All licensed turkey hunters are required to have a Turkey License in their possession while turkey hunting in addition to basic and big game hunting licenses. Additionally, a WMA Hunting

Permit is required of any person (age 18-59) who hunts on land administered by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, including Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife Refuges, and Habitat Conservation Areas.

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30:2874 (December 2004), LR 31: .

§115. Statewide Turkey Hunting Areas-Resident Game Birds and Animals

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

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Turkey	See Schedule	1	2/Season

B. Turkey season will open in designated areas on the fourth Saturday in March. The Area A turkey season will be 30 consecutive days in length, the Area B turkey season will be 23 consecutive days in length, and the Area C turkey season will be 9 consecutive days in length. Wildlife Management Areas, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land may vary from this framework. Deviation from this framework may occur in those years when the fourth Saturday in March falls the day before Easter.

C. Statewide Youth Turkey and Physically Challenged Season on private lands shall be the weekend prior to the statewide turkey season. Only youths younger than 16 years of age or hunters possessing a Physically Challenged Hunter Permit with wheelchair classification may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Each youth must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults accompanying youth may not possess a firearm or bow. Youths may possess only one firearm or bow while hunting. Legal weapons and shot are the same as described for the turkey season. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. An adult may supervise only one youth during this special hunt. Only one gobbler per day may be taken and any gobbler taken by the youth hunter during this special season counts towards their seasonal bag limit of 2. Contact regional offices for a Physically Challenged Hunter Permit application.

D. 2006 Turkey Hunting Schedule

AREA	SEASON DATES
A	March 25 - April 23
B	March 25 - April 16
C	March 25 - April 2
Private Lands Youth <u>and Physically Challenged Hunter (Wheelchair</u>	March 18 - 19

Confined Hunt

E. 2006 Turkey Hunting Season - Open Only in the Following Areas

1. Area A - March 25 - April 23

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Beauregard;

ii. East Baton Rouge;

iii. East Feliciana;

iv. LaSalle;

v. Livingston;

vi. Natchitoches (Exception: See Federal Lands

Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

vii. Sabine;

viii. St. Helena;

ix. St. Tammany;

x. Tangipahoa;

xi. Vernon (Exception: See Federal Lands

Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

xii. Washington;

xiii. West Baton Rouge;

xiv. West Feliciana (including Raccourci

Island);

xv. Winn (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting

Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are also

open:

i. Allen: North of LA 104, west of LA 26 south of junction of LA 104 to US 190, north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165 south of Kinder;

ii. Avoyelles: That portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection levee southward;

iii. Calcasieu: North of I-10;

iv. Caldwell: West of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line;

v. Catahoula: West of Ouachita River southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north and west of LA 8 to LaSalle Parish line. ALSO that portion lying east of LA 15;

vi. Concordia: That portion east of LA 15 and west of US 65 from its juncture with LA 15 at Clayton;

vii. Evangeline: North and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 from St. Landry to LA 13, west of LA 13 from Pine Prairie to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou;

viii. Franklin: That portion lying east of LA 17 and east of LA 15 from its juncture with LA 17 at Winnsboro;

ix. Grant: All of the parish except that

portion of land that lies north of the Red River between US 71 and LA 8. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates;

x. Iberville: West of LA 1. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries;

xi. Jefferson Davis: North of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165;

xii. Madison: That portion lying east of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80. Also, all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

xiii. Pointe Coupee: All of the parish except that portion bounded on the north by LA Hwy. 1, from Innis to the junction of LA Hwy 417, on the west by LA Hwy. 417 southward toward McCrea, on the south by LA Hwy. 417 from McCrea to its junction with Delhi Lane, then by Delhi Lane to LA Hwy. 418, then LA Hwy. 418 northward to LA Hwy. 1 at Innis. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

xiv. Rapides: All of the parish except that portion of lands that lies north of the Red River and south of US 71 from its juncture with the Red River northward to the Grant Parish line. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest season dates;

xv. Richland: That portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

xvi. St. Landry: That portion bounded on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River. EXCEPTION: the Indian Bayou Area, see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou Area dates;

xvii. Upper St. Martin: All within the Atchafalaya Basin. EXCEPTIONS: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou Area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou dates;

xviii. Tensas: That portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry. Also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

2. Area B - March 25 - April 16

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville;

~~ii. Bossier;~~

~~iii~~ ii. Caddo;

~~iv~~ iii. Claiborne (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

~~v~~ iv. DeSoto;

~~vi~~ v. Jackson;

~~vii~~ vi. Lincoln;

~~viii~~ vii. Red River;

~~ix~~ viii. Union;

~~x. Webster (Exception: See Federal Lands
Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);~~

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi
River;

ii. Bossier: All open except that portion
bounded on the north by I-20, on the west by LA 164, on the south
by LA 164, and on the east by the Webster Parish Line;

~~ii~~ iii. East Carroll: East of US 65 from
Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line;

~~iii~~ iv. Iberville: All east of the
Mississippi River;

~~iv~~ v. Ouachita: East of LA 143 from Union
Parish line to US 80 in West Monroe, north of US 80 to LA 139, west
of LA 139 to the Morehouse Parish line;

~~v~~ vi. Morehouse: West of US 165 from the
Arkansas line to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA
830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165, north of US
165 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to Ouachita Parish line;

vii. Webster: All open except that portion
bounded on the north by I-20, on the east by U.S. 371, on the south

by LA 164, and on the west by the Bossier Parish line (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

3. Area C - March 25 - April 2

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Catahoula: That portion lying south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west and north of LA 8 to LA 15, west of LA 15 to Deer Creek;

ii. Concordia: North and east of Sugar Mill Chute (Concordia Parish) from the state line westward to Red River, east of Red River northward to Cocodrie Bayou, east of Cocodrie Bayou northward to US 84, south of US 84 eastward to LA 15 (Ferriday), east of LA 15 northward to US 65 (Clayton), east of US 65 northward to Tensas Parish line;

iii. Franklin: That portion lying west of LA 17, from Richland Parish line to LA 577 at Crowville, north of LA 577 to LA 15 at Baskin, east of LA 15 to Big Creek, and south and east of Big Creek to Richland Parish line. Also, that portion east of Turkey Creek Lake, Turkey Creek and Boeuf River, north of Deer Creek, west of LA 15 and south of LA 562;

iv. Richland: West of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Road, south of Ringle Road to Ferguson Road, south of Ferguson Road to Little Road, south of Little Road to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line;

v. Tensas: East and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry.

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2513 (November 2003), LR 30:2875 (December 2004), LR 31: .

§117. 2006 Wildlife Management Area Turkey - Hunting Regulations

A. General

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

2. Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed are open to turkey hunting.

3. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT in designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 3:00 AM. All roads including trails and roads designated as ATV only trails shall be closed to ATVs

from March 1 through August 31 unless otherwise specified. ATV off-road or off-trail travel is prohibited. Certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes. These trails will be marked by signs at the entrance of the trail. Otherwise, only walk-in hunting is permitted (bicycles permitted).

4. Bag limits on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey is allowed to be taken during special lottery hunts.

5. WMAs with youth turkey hunts are closed to all activities except turkey hunting by authorized youth hunt participants and fishing on the day(s) of the youth hunt.

B. Permits

1. Self-Clearing Permits: All turkey hunts, including lottery hunts, are self-clearing. Hunters must check in daily by obtaining a permit from a self-clearing station prior to hunting. The self-clearing permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting. Upon completion of each days hunt, the hunter must check out by completing and depositing the hunter report portion of the permit in the check-out box at a self-clearing station before exiting the WMA.

2. Lottery Hunts: Bayou Macon, Boise-Vernon, Loggy Bayou, Sabine, Sherburne, Sicily Island, Tunica Hills, Union and West Bay WMAs are restricted to those persons selected as a result of the pre-application lottery. Special youth only lottery hunts

will be held on Big Lake, Bens Creek, Fort Polk/Peason Ridge, Jackson-Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Sherburne, Spring Bayou, Thistlewaite, Union and West Bay WMAs. Deadline for receiving complete applications in the Baton Rouge office for all lottery hunts is 4:30 p.m. February 15, 2006. An application fee of \$5 must be sent with each application. Applicants for WMA youth hunts must be at least 8 years old on the day of the hunt. Applicants may submit only one application and will be selected for one WMA Turkey Lottery Hunt annually. Submitting more than one application will result in disqualification. Contact any district office for applications. Hunters must abide by self-clearing permit requirements. Youths chosen for special youth only hunts will be guided by members of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. One family member may accompany the youth and guide, but may not hunt.

C. Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule*

WMA	Season Dates	Permit Requirements	Lottery Dates**
Bayou Macon	April 8-9	Self-Clearing	April 8-9
Bens Creek ¹	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Big Lake	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	None
Bodcau	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Boeuf	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	None
Clear Creek (formerly Boise Vernon)	March 25-26 April 1-23	Self-Clearing	March 25-26 April 1-2
Camp Beauregard	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Fort Polk	March 25-April 23	Self-Clearing	None
Grassy Lake	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Hutchinson Creek	March 25-April 23	Self-Clearing	None

Jackson-Bienville	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Lake Ramsey	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Little River	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Loggy Bayou	April 15-16	Self-Clearing	April 15-16
Pearl River	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	None
Peason Ridge	March 25-April 23	Self-Clearing	None
Red River	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	None
Sabine	March 25-26 April 1-2	Self-Clearing	March 25-26 April 1-2
Sandy Hollow ¹	March 25-April 9	Self-Clearing	None
Sherburne ²	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	March 25-26 March 27-29
Sicily Island	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	March 25-27 March 28-30 March 31-April 2
Three Rivers	March 25-April 2	Self-Clearing	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	March 25-26 April 1-2 April 8-9 April 10-16	Self-Clearing	March 25-26 April 1-2 April 8-9
Tunica Hills Angola Tract ³	March 25-26 April 1-2 April 8-9 April 10-16	Self-Clearing	March 25-26 April 1-2 April 8-9
Union	April 8-9	Self-Clearing	April 8-9
Walnut Hills	March 25-April 23	Self-Clearing	None
West Bay	March 25-26 April 1-2	Self-Clearing	March 25-26 April 1-2

*Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed have a turkey hunting season. All other areas are closed.

**The deadline for receiving applications for all turkey Lottery Hunts on WMAs is February 15, 2006.

¹No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

²All turkeys harvested on Sherburne WMA must be weighed and checked at WMA headquarters.

³Area closed to all users April 17 - August 31.

D. Wildlife Management Area Youth Hunts

WMA	Lottery Youth Hunt Date
Bens Creek	March 18
Big Lake	March 18
Fort Polk/Peason Ridge	March 18
Jackson-Bienville	March 18
Loggy Bayou	April 8
Sherburne	March 18 & 19
Spring Bayou	March 18
Thistlewaite	April 8
Union	April 1
West Bay	March 18

E. Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

1. Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) turkey hunting schedule: Caney Ranger District, March 25-April 9; all remaining KNF lands, March 25-April 16 (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves).

2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers turkey hunting schedule: Indian Bayou Area, March 18 handicap only hunt, March 25 - April 2, lottery hunt only on March 25 - 26 and March 27 -29. Contact USCOE at 337-585-0853 for further information. Old River Control and Lock Areas, March 25-April 2. Contact USCOE (225) 492-2690 for further information.

3. National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto NWR, March 25 - April 23; Lake Ophelia NWR, March 25 - 31, April 8 - 23; Tensas NWR, March 18 - 19 (youth lottery only), March 25 - April 9;

Upper Ouachita NWR, March 18 - 19 (youth lottery only). Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information regarding NWR hunts.

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 25:2265 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2636 (November 2000), LR 27:2272 (December 2001), LR 28:2377 (November 2002), LR 29:2514 (November 2003), LR 30:2876 (December 2004), LR 31: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent and the final Rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statements, the filing of the Notice of Intent and final Rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed Rule to David Moreland, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 no later than October 6, 2005.

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

Vice-Chairman

Hunter Attitudes Toward Duck Season in Louisiana

Craig A. Miller, Ph.D.
School of Renewable Natural Resources
Louisiana State University

A survey examining duck hunter attitudes toward duck season in Louisiana was undertaken during the summer of 2005 as a cooperative effort between the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the School of Renewable Natural Resources at LSU. A random sample of 6,500 waterfowl hunters was mailed an 8-page survey questionnaire. A total of 2,916 responses were received for a response rate of 56% (after removing 1,333 individuals for undeliverable addresses). A majority of hunters (76%) hunted ducks in Louisiana during the 2004-05 season. Most hunters (56%) harvested between 1 and 20 ducks, and 12% reported they did not harvest any ducks. A majority of hunters (69%) hunted between 1 and 20 days during the season. December was the most active month for duck hunters, with 75% responding that they did most of their hunting during this month. Cameron Parish was hunted most often (9%), followed by Vermilion (8%), Terrebonne (6%), Plaquemines (5%), and Avoyelles (4%) and Lafourche (4%). Slightly more than one-third (35%) of duck hunters hunted on leases.

Other key results of the study are as follows:

Evaluations of the 2004-05 Duck Season

- 67% of hunters rated the overall quality of duck hunting in Louisiana as “Poor” to “Fair”

For the 2004-05 season:

- 81% of hunters were dissatisfied with the number of ducks they saw
- 78% were dissatisfied with the number of ducks they harvested
- 71% were dissatisfied with the number of shots they took
- 48% were dissatisfied with the number of days they hunted

When hunters compared the 2004-05 season with the 1999-2000 season:

- 73% of hunters were dissatisfied with the number of ducks they saw
- 69% were dissatisfied with the number of ducks they harvested
- 72% were dissatisfied with the number of shots they took
- 50% were dissatisfied with the number of days they hunted

88% of hunters felt the overall trend for duck hunting in Louisiana is “Worse” to “Much worse” than 5 years ago.

55% of hunters did not bag their limit of ducks at least one day during the 2004-05 season.

84% reported the days they bagged their limit during the 2004-05 season was lower than 5 years earlier.

When asked for their opinions as to what issues most affected duck populations:

69% of hunters believe that farming practices are keeping ducks from migrating south

61% cited warmer winters

50% thought too many ducks were holding on refuges

Hunter Preferences

45% of hunters prefer a 60 day season, even if season length negatively affected duck populations

38% preferred a 6 duck limit, even if harvest negatively affected duck populations

When asked for their preference for the season-within-a-season structure for canvasback and pintail ducks:

44% wanted a short season for both at different times to match peak migration

41% had no opinion

42% wanted the pintail season held late in the season

30% had no opinion

60% would prefer a full season for all ducks that allows harvest of ONLY ONE TOTAL per day of the following: hen mallard, pintail, canvasback, OR mottled duck

For Zones:

53% preferred the current systems of 2 zones with split seasons

53% would not favor statewide shooting hours that would end at mid-day

The results for these and other questionnaire items are presented on the following pages.

1. Did you hunt ducks in Louisiana during the **2004-2005 season**?

76% Yes 24% No (please go to **Section 3 question 1**)

2. How many ducks did you harvest during the **2004-05 season**? Please check one.

12% 0 37% 1-10 19% 11-20 10% 21-30
7% 31-40 5% 41-50 10% more than 50

3. How many days did you hunt ducks during the **2004-05 season**? Please check one.

5% 0 46% 1-10 23% 11-20 13% 21-30
7% 31-40 4% 41-50 2% 50-60

4. During which months did you do **most** of your duck hunting? If you hunted equally during more than one month, please check all that apply.

45% November 75% December 47% January

5. In which Parish did you hunt ducks **most often** during the **2004-05 season**?

9% Cameron
8% Vermilion
6% Terrebonne
5% Plaquemines
4% Avoyelles
4% Lafourche

6. Where did you hunt ducks **most often** during **2004-2005**? Please check one.

35% Duck lease
26% Property owned by someone (guest)
24% Public areas (WMA's, National Wildlife Refuge) etc
13% My own property
3% Guided pay hunt

7. How would you rate the overall quality of your duck hunting in Louisiana during the 2004-2005 season? Please circle the number that matches your answer.

Poor		Fair			Good			Excellent	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
36%	16%	15%	13%	7%	5%	5%	2%	0.4%	1%

8. How satisfied were you with the following for the 2004-2005 duck season? Please circle the number that matches your answer.

	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Not Sure	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Number of days you hunted	<u>23%</u>	<u>25%</u>	<u>9%</u>	<u>32%</u>	<u>11%</u>
Number of ducks you saw	<u>48%</u>	<u>32%</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>3%</u>
Number of shots you took	<u>42%</u>	<u>29%</u>	<u>9%</u>	<u>16%</u>	<u>4%</u>
Number of ducks you harvested	<u>49%</u>	<u>29%</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>14%</u>	<u>3%</u>

9. How satisfied were you with the following for the 2004-2005 duck season compared to 5 years ago (1999-2000 season)? Please circle the number that matches your answer.

	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Not Sure	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Number of days you hunted	<u>32%</u>	<u>18%</u>	<u>15%</u>	<u>23%</u>	<u>12%</u>
Number of ducks you saw	<u>53%</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>10%</u>	<u>11%</u>	<u>6%</u>
Number of shots you took	<u>49%</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>13%</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>6%</u>
Number of ducks you harvested	<u>52%</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>11%</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>6%</u>
Overall rating of season	<u>51%</u>	<u>21%</u>	<u>10%</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>6%</u>

10. In your opinion, what is the trend in duck hunting in Louisiana compared to 5 years ago? Please circle the number that matches your answer.

Much Worse	Worse	Same	Better	Much Better
<u>47%</u>	<u>41%</u>	<u>8%</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>1%</u>

11. How many days did you bag your daily limit of ducks during the 2004-2005 season?

55% 0 days

14% 1 day

11% 2 days

6% 3 days

3% 4 days

3% 5 days

5% 6 -10 days

1% 11-15 days

1% 16-20 days

1% more than 20 days

12. How did the number of days when you bagged your daily limit of ducks during the 2004-2005 season compare to seasons over the past 5 years? Please check one.

3% Higher

13% About the same

84% Lower

13. In your opinion, what are the **most serious issues affecting duck populations in North America?** Please check all that you feel are serious issues.

69 % farming practices that keep ducks from migrating south

61 % warmer winters

50% too many ducks holding on refuges

42% loss of wetland habitats

36% too many ducks harvested up north

6% use of spinning wing decoys

3% daily bag limits too high

3% season too long

14. If it was shown that season length negatively affected duck populations, which of the following would you prefer for maximum season length?

45% 60 day season

23% 50 day season

25 % 45 day season

6% 30 day season

15. If it was shown that daily bag limit negatively affected duck populations, which of the following would you prefer for maximum daily bag limit?

38% 6 duck limit **26%** 5 duck limit **29%** 4 duck limit **8%** 3 duck limit

16. In recent years we have 30 day seasons for canvasback and pintails within the 60 day duck season. Different options for pintail and canvasback seasons are being considered. Which of the following options would you prefer? Please choose one.

15% short seasons for both species at the same time

44% short season for both at different times to match peak migrations

41% no opinion

17. When would you prefer the season for pintails to be held? Please choose one.

11% early in the season **18%** middle of the season **42%** late in the season
30% no opinion

18. Which of the following would you prefer for pintails and canvasbacks? Please choose one.

40% the current shortened seasons for pintails and canvasbacks within the full duck season

60% full season for all ducks that allows harvest of **ONLY ONE TOTAL** per day of the following: hen mallard, pintail, canvasback, OR mottled duck

19. Louisiana currently has an East and West zone, each with split seasons (season closes for a period of time then reopens). Which of the following would you prefer for duck season? Please choose one.

53% the current system of 2 zones with split seasons

6% 3 zones with no split seasons (this would require continuous seasons within each zone)

41% no zones (a statewide season) with 3 season segments (splits)

20. Some land managers and duck hunting clubs limit shooting to morning hunting only. Would you favor statewide shooting hours that would end at mid-day for everyone?

45% Yes

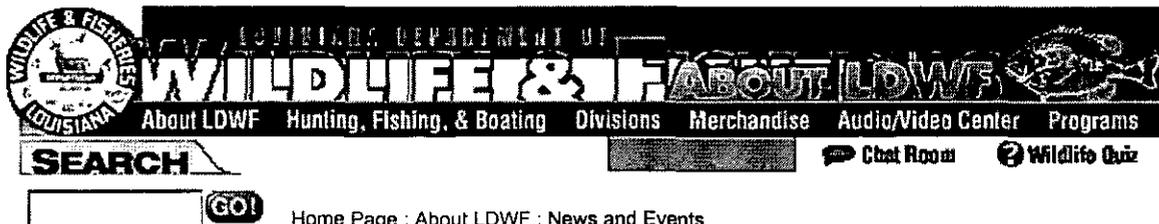
55% No

Appendix A

In which Parish did you hunt ducks most often during the 2004-2005 season?

Parish	N	Percent
Cameron	196	9.4
Vermilion	176	8.4
Terrebonne	134	6.4
Plaquemines	110	5.3
Avoyelles	84	4.0
Lafourche	73	3.5
Calcasieu	68	3.3
St. Bernard	65	3.1
St. Martin	65	3.1
Jefferson Davis	64	3.1
St. Mary	60	2.9
St. Landry	56	2.7
Acadia	50	2.4
Evangeline	49	2.3
Morehouse	49	2.3
Rapides	49	2.3
Bossier	44	2.1
Ouachita	38	1.8
Caddo	37	1.8
Catahoula	36	1.7
Jefferson	35	1.7
Concordia	34	1.6
La Salle	34	1.6
St. Charles	33	1.6
St. Tammany	31	1.5
Pointe Coupee	26	1.2
Iberia	25	1.2
Richland	25	1.2
Union	25	1.2
Caldwell	23	1.1
Tensas	22	1.1
Natchitoches	20	1.0
Iberville	18	0.9
Webster	14	0.7
Bienville	14	0.7
Grant	12	0.6
Madison	12	0.6
Sabine	12	0.6
East Carroll	11	0.53
Franklin	11	0.5
Red River	11	0.5

Winn	11	0.5
Ascension	10	0.5
Lafayette	9	0.4
Orleans	9	0.4
Bienville	9	0.4
De Soto	8	0.4
Claiborne	7	0.3
Jackson	7	0.3
Vernon	7	0.3
St. John the Baptist	6	0.3
Tangipahoa	6	0.3
West Feliciana	6	0.3
Beauregard	6	0.3
East Baton Rouge	5	0.2
St. James	5	0.2
West Baton Rouge	5	0.2
Livingston	4	0.2
Assumption	4	0.2
St. Helena	4	0.2
West Carroll	3	0.1
Lincoln	2	0.1
Washington	2	0.1
East Feliciana	1	0.05



[Mallard Telemetry Powerpoint](#)

2005-309 2006 DUCK STAMP WINNER ANNOUNCED - AMENDED 11/2/2005

The 18th annual Louisiana Conservation Stamp and Print Competition sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries announced the winning design on Oct. 26 that will be featured on the 2006 Duck Stamp.

Edward Suthoff's painting of an alert yellow Labrador retriever emerging from an open field while a pair of mallards fly in the background was the chosen winner from a field of eight other paintings. Tony Bernard from Lafayette placed second and Wayne Atkinson from Irving, Texas was third.

Suthoff is from Mississippi, but has been displaced to northeast Arkansas because of Hurricane Katrina. He was the winner of the 1993 Mississippi duck stamp contest at the age of 23. He was also chosen the 2004 and 2005 Artist of the Year at the Louisiana Wildlife Festival and designed the poster for the 2004 world championship duck-calling contest.

LDWF initiated the "Retrievers Save Game" series last year when it featured a black Labrador, because all of the waterfowl species were used in the first 16 years of the competition. The contest rules stipulate that the retriever must be prominent in the design, but must also include live waterfowl selected by the artist.

The Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp program was established in 1988 by the Louisiana Legislature to generate revenue for conservation and enhancement of state wetlands and other worthy programs that benefit Louisiana's ducks and geese. This program has generated over \$8.5 million for wetland conservation since 1989.

"These dollars have helped acquire several tracts of land in need of duck and geese habitat improvement," Robert Helm, LDWF waterfowl program manager said. "Money is also budgeted each year from this fund to help repair levees and perform other wetland management practices on our state's Wildlife Management Areas. This money is extremely important to this department and to waterfowl and wetland habitats."

The Louisiana Waterfowl Program, a cooperative endeavor between LDWF, Ducks Unlimited and the Federal Natural Resources Conservation Services has also benefited private lands.

Helm said that prints of the Suthoff painting would be available from the artist in the summer. The 18th anniversary 2006-07 stamp, featuring Suthoff's work, is expected to go on sale June 1, 2006. For information on prints call toll free 1-866-225-9907 or visit www.edwardsuthoffart.com. The artist then retains the original artwork and will have reproduction rights to the image for prints and other commodities after LDWF has used the image to produce the stamps.

Judges for the competition included Dr. Headley Adelman, artist and retired biology professor from Hammond, Jerry Bower, frame shop and art studio owner in Lafayette,

Clint Jeske, waterfowl and wetlands biologist with the United States Geological Survey wetlands research center from Lafayette, Bob Kennon, retired Baton Rouge attorney and lifelong Labrador trainer and judge, and Mike Bengé, current state chairman of Ducks Unlimited.

For more information, contact Robert Helm at 225-765-2358 or rhelm@wlf.louisiana.gov.



Edward Suthoff with first place painting



LDWF [About LDWF](#) [Hunting, Fishing & Boating](#) [Divisions](#) [Merchandise](#) [Audio/Video Center](#) [Programs](#)

October 17, 2005

The Honorable Dwight Landreneau, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive
Baton Rouge, La. 70808

Dear Secretary Landreneau:

I am requesting that the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries consider an extension of the menhaden fishing season for an additional two week period through November 15, 2005. Due to Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita all of the Gulf of Mexico's menhaden production capacity was severely damaged. This includes three facilities in Louisiana, two of which were catastrophically damaged. Omega Protein's Moss Point, MS and Abbeville, LA faculties were severely damaged; however, we have been successful at temporarily restoring about 50% of the production capacity at these facilities as of early October.

Omega Protein is requesting an extension to compensate for a portion of our lost production in the event we find it to be feasible. I would like to thank you in advance for your time and attention to this request. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Toby M. Gascon
Director of Government Affairs

Cc: Wayne Sagrera, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
John Roussel, Assistant Secretary
Office of Fisheries, LAWLF
Karen Foote, Administrator
Marine Fisheries Division, LAWLF

RESOLUTION

ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL MENHADEN SEASON
November 3, 2005

- WHEREAS, the regular season for the harvest of menhaden is established in rule (LAC 76:VII.307) by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to be open from the third Monday in April until November 1 of each year, and
- WHEREAS, the infrastructure of the menhaden industry was severely damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the ability of the industry to harvest the resource was severely limited after the passage of those storms, and
- WHEREAS, the Department and the Commission have received a request from members of the menhaden industry to open an additional season to allow access to the resource, to compensate for a portion of their lost production in the event they find harvest feasible, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature has established a season for the harvest of menhaden for bait, to be open from the close of the regular menhaden season until December first (R.S. 56:325.6), and
- WHEREAS, a quota of 3,000 metric tons is established for the harvest of bait menhaden within the special bait season, which may only be used for bait, and if the quota has not been reached by December first, then, beginning on April first of the following year, bait gulf menhaden may be taken until the Department determines that the quota has been met, and persons who harvest menhaden for bait during the special bait season are required to apply for a permit from the Department, and to abide by other rules, and
- WHEREAS, the season considered here is intended to support the menhaden reduction industry, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby opens an additional season for commercial harvest of menhaden as described in the attached Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency opening the additional commercial menhaden season is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act R.S. 49:953(B), R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

Effective 12:01 a.m., November 4, 2005, the commercial fishery for menhaden in Louisiana outside waters, including Breton and Chandeleur Sounds, as described in LAC 76:VII.307(C) and (D) shall be open, and remain open until 12:01 a.m., November 16, 2005. Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of menhaden by legally licensed and permitted bait menhaden fishermen during the same time period for bait menhaden harvest.

Harvest of menhaden for reduction under this season shall not be counted against the quota for bait menhaden as established in R.S. 56:325.6. Harvest of menhaden for bait during this season shall be counted against the quota for bait menhaden. Reporting and other requirements of menhaden bait permits remain in effect for this season.

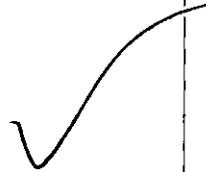
Effective with the closure of this season, no person shall commercially harvest, possess, purchase, exchange, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, exchange, barter, trade or sell

menhaden, whether taken from within or without Louisiana waters except properly permitted and licensed menhaden bait permit holders. Nothing shall prohibit the possession or sale of fish legally taken prior to the closure providing that all commercial dealers possessing menhaden taken legally prior to the closure shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Chairman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2006</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	31	





KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

JANICE A. LANSING
UNDERSECRETARY

NEWS RELEASE

10-26-2005

2005-302

L.W.F.C. SETS NOVEMBER AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has scheduled the next regular public board meeting for **9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3, 2005**, at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Building located at 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge, La.

1. Roll call
2. Approval of minutes of Oct. 6, 2005
3. Commission special announcements
4. Presentation to Joel Courtney by NRCS
5. Enforcement & aviation reports/October
6. 2006 Turkey Season changes and public comments
7. Results of waterfowl opinion survey
8. Recognize 2006 Duck Stamp Artist
9. Recognize Wildlife Division wood duck banding region
10. Declaration of Emergency - Menhaden season
11. Set March 2006 meeting date
12. Public comments
13. Adjournment

October 26, 2005

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: _____



AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for **9:30 A.M. on Thursday, November 3, 2005**, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

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2. Approval of Minutes of October 6, 2005
3. Commission Special Announcements
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11. Set March 2006 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments
13. Adjournment



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

October 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary 
SUBJECT: November Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at **9:30 AM on Thursday, November 3, 2005**, 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 October 6, 2005
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Presentation to Joel Courtney by NRCS

WINTON VIDRINE

5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/October

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

6. 2006 Turkey Season Changes and Public Comments
7. Results of Waterfowl Opinion Survey
8. Recognize 2006 Duck Stamp Artist
9. Recognize Wildlife Division Wood Duck Banding Region

Page 2
Commission Meeting
October 26, 2005

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

10. Declaration of Emergency - Menhaden Season
11. Set March 2006 Meeting Date
12. Public Comments

DL:scf

cc: Janice Lansing
Parke Moore
John Roussel
Brandt Savoie
Bo Boehringer
Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Administrators
Marianne Burke
Stephanie Blanchard

Mr Sagrera Verbally approved
agenda 10/26/2005 -
sif

C O V E R
S H E E T



FAX

To: Wayne Sagrera
Fax #: 337-893-7703
Subject: Agenda
Date: October 21, 2005
Pages: 4, including this cover sheet.

*Added:
DE - Mentaden Season -
John Roussel*

COMMENTS:

Please review the attached agenda. Also, let me know how to handle the request from Omega Protein. Thanks in advance and have a nice weekend.

RECEIVED

OCT 26 2005

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From the desk of...

Susan Falcon

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

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

, 2005

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TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
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OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

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Page 2
Commission Meeting
, 2005

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

(None)

10. Set March 2006 Meeting Date

11. Public Comments

DL:scf

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Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Administrators
Marianne Burke
Stephanie Blanchard

PSC 900 Series 950xi
Personal Printer/Fax/Copier/Scanner

Log for
LDWF
(225) 765-0948
Oct 21 2005 9:26AM

Last Transaction

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Identification</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Result</u>
Oct 21	9:25AM	Fax Sent	83378937703	1:08	4	OK

*Cancelled for October -
will do in November*

Falcon, Susan

From: Greeson, Cathy
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2005 10:24 AM
To: Falcon, Susan
Subject: FW: October 6, 2005, Commission Meeting

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

From: Landreneau, Dwight
Sent: Sunday, August 28, 2005 7:02 PM
To: Greeson, Cathy
Subject: Fw: October 6, 2005, Commission Meeting

Put this on the schedule

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

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

From: Gohmert, Donald - Alexandria, LA <don.gohmert@la.usda.gov>
To: dlandreneau@wlf.louisiana.gov <dlandreneau@wlf.louisiana.gov>
Sent: Thu Aug 25 10:53:02 2005
Subject: October 6, 2005, Commission Meeting

Dwight - This is to confirm our discussion yesterday concerning my visit to the October 6, 2005, Commission meeting. At that meeting, I would like to present Joel Courtney with a token of gratitude on behalf of NRCS. Joel has helped us develop an 8 1/2 minute video that we are using at the White House Conference on Conservation next week in St. Louis.

If time would permit, I would like to show the video to the Commissioners and give a brief update on our conservation programs of which your department plays an important role. I would need no more than 20 minutes to do all of this unless there are questions, discussions, etc.

Please let me know if all of this is possible. Also, I'd appreciate any details concerning time and location of the 10/6 meeting.

I truly appreciate your support and leadership for the conservation, development, and stewardship of habitat throughout Louisiana.

Donald W. Gohmert
State Conservationist
USDA-NRCS
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302
(318) 473-7751



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

October 3, 2005

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary 

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - **November 3, 2005**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Wednesday, October 19th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, November 3rd** Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at **9:30 a.m.** on November 3rd. 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!

DL:scf

cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Brandt Savoie
Winton Vidrine
Dave Moreland ✓
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Phil Bowman
Wynnette Kees
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

- 1) Turkey Season 2006 Changes
- 2) ^{Results of} Waterfowl Opinion Survey - Robert Helm & Dr. Craig Miller LSU
- 3) Recognize 2006 Duck Stamp Artist - RH
{ Recognize Wildlife Division: Wood duck
- 4) Banding Region - RH





State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
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Phil Bowman
Wynnette Kees
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

Dear Susan:
Inland Fish has no
items for November agenda
of the Commission meeting -

Sincerely
Bennie

C. John Rowland

Falcon, Susan

From: Foote, Karen
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2005 9:40 AM
To: Roussel, John E
Cc: Falcon, Susan; Porch, Pat
Subject: Nov. Comm items- Marine Fisheries

At this point, Marine Fisheries has no Nov. agenda items.

I understand that there may be a menhaden industry request to the Commission to extend the season. We are looking at mechanics, if the Comm. chooses to proceed with it.



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

October 3, 2005

MEMORANDUM

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

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Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke ✓

*Nothing for Public Info.
The DLs*



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

October 3, 2005

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Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke



RECEIVED

OCT 03 2005

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES ASSISTANT SECRETARY DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

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- Wynnette Kees
- Ewell Smith
- Marianne Burke

None



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
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