

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

DECEMBER 8, 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
DECEMBER 8, 2005

	Page
1. Roll Call	1
2. Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2005	1
3. Commission Special Announcements	1
4. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Presentation to Joel Courtney	2
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November	3
6. Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season	3
7. Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental Final Results	14
8. Deer/Dog Task Force Updates	16
9. Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrapeds and Non-Human Primates	17
10. Set April 2006 Meeting Date	24
11. Public Comments	24
12. Adjournment	28

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Chairman Wayne Sagrera presiding.

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

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present.

Commissioner Henry Mouton was absent from the meeting.

Chairman Sagrera called for a motion for approval of the **November 3, 2005 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Denmon and seconded by Commissioner Morrow. The motion passed with no opposition.

For **Commission Special Announcements** for this month, Chairman Sagrera congratulated Commissioner Morrow on his Governor's appointment to a six year term.

Commissioner Miller stated he and Commissioner Mouton were requested by people and interests from the Lake Charles area to explore the implementation of a reduction in the creel limit for spotted seatrout in the Calcasieu-Sabine Estuary. This would occur in the same area where there is a rule limiting the take of speckled trout over 24 inches to 2 per day. Commissioner Miller asked the staff to prepare a Notice of Intent for presentation at the January Meeting reducing the creel limit for spotted seatrout in that area from 25 to 15 per day with the size limit remaining the same.

Commissioner Morrow stated he received a copy of a letter written by Commissioner Mouton addressed a United States Senator on the Commissioner's letterhead. He stated he had not yet had the opportunity to confirm the contents of the letter but there could be a perception the letter stated a position of the Department. He also did not want the letter to be perceived as his position individually or the Commission as a whole. Commissioner Morrow asked that a protocol be developed such that a statement or a stand from the Commission would be signed by the Chairman after discussion and/or a directive to the Secretary to issue a statement

on behalf of the Commission. He noted he would express his thoughts to Commissioner Mouton and offer him the opportunity to respond. Perhaps at the next meeting, a full discussion could be had on this issue. Commissioner Miller joined with Commissioner Morrow in stating he had no idea whether the letter by Commissioner Mouton was truthful or not. He added he had never heard of or seen the letter and wanted no implications that he would take the same position as stated. Along with Commissioner Morrow, Commissioner Miller disclaimed any knowledge or joinder in the letter and asked that the Minutes reflect his position. Commissioner Denmon fully agreed with the comments by Commissioners Morrow and Miller. He also felt a protocol was needed on how Commissioner's make public statements. Then Commissioner Denmon noted the public does not differentiate the Department from the Commission and asked that a public campaign occur telling what the Commission does and does not do relative to the Department and what the Department does. Commissioner King also agreed with the other comments and asked for direction. Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Don Puckett what would be the proper procedure. Mr. Puckett stated that an oral motion could be adopted to incorporate what Commissioner Morrow made in his statement or it could be formalized by a written resolution for presentation at the next meeting. Commissioner Morrow again stated he wanted Commissioner Mouton's input. Then he asked Mr. Puckett to develop a formal resolution that could be discussed and adopted at the January Meeting. Commissioner Denmon did not want to adopt anything then, but asked that a formal set of rules on this issue be developed. Mr. Puckett stated he could begin with a draft and understood it went beyond sending letters on letterhead. Commissioner Denmon felt, in a general form, some type of protocol was needed. Chairman Sagrera stated that a draft was the way to proceed.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Presentation to Joel Courtney was handled by Secretary Dwight Landreneau filling in for Mr. Donald Gohmert. He began showing a short video on NRCS programs. The Secretary stated the video was done by the Department for Mr. Gohmert when he testified, on behalf of the State, at a White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation. The message from the video was that conservation was the responsibility of all of us throughout the United States and world. In order for this to happen, cooperative working relationships were needed from the Federal side, State side, local government and volunteers. Mr. Gohmert needed collateral for his presentation in Washington, DC and the Department, already participating in conservation, partnered with NRCS in an effort to show the good things going on in Louisiana. A plaque was presented to several Department employees, Mr. Joel Courtney and Mr. Thomas Gresham, and Mr. David Telesco with the Black Bear Conservation Committee for their help with the video.

Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November was given by Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze. November was the first big month for hunting season as well as the first Discover Louisiana Hunting Program that occurred Thanksgiving weekend. Unlawful hunting activity that went on during the month included night hunting, deer and migratory violations. A total of 1,110 citations and 180 written warnings were issued and agents helped with 60 public assists during the month. Lt. Col. LaCaze felt the public was having good hunter success and this was helpful for a lot of people. Six boating accidents were reported during the month with 6 injuries and 1 fatality. This fatality occurred in Lafourche Parish in which the operator struck an underwater object and was ejected. The Aviation Report had a total of 99.9 hours for the three airplanes. Copies of News Releases included three subjects from Avoyelles Parish seeing and killing a 13 point buck on the Black Hawk Plantation; a drug arrest while hunting on Three Rivers WMA; three men cited for taking an alligator near Three Rivers WMA; a Texas person was apprehended doing illegal night hunting in Caddo Parish; and an illegal deer taken in Plaquemines Parish which remains closed to deer hunting due to damage from the hurricanes. The last was a News Release on an agent saving several homes from an out of control fire that was set in a cane field. Chairman Sagrera asked what was the number of fatalities in an average year. Lt. Col. LaCaze stated, over the last few years, the total has been in the mid-30's.

Mr. Fred Kimmel handled the next agenda item, **Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season**. He reminded the Commission a Notice of Intent was presented at the August meeting, and the dates for Area A will be March 25 to April 23, Area B - March 25 to April 16, Area C - March 25 to April 2 and the private lands youth hunt on March 18 and 19. One public comment was received which requested disabled hunters the chance to hunt during the private lands youth hunt. At the November meeting, Mr. Kimmel stated he recommended four changes to the original Notice of Intent. They were to close Pearl River WMA, add a youth season on the Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge, close a small portion of Bossier and Webster Parishes for restocking and allowing wheelchair bound hunters with a permit to hunt during the statewide private lands youth hunt. The Commission did not take any action on the recommendations at the last meeting so Mr. Kimmel asked the Commission to adopt the changes. Chairman Sagrera asked if there were any public comments on the four changes and Mr. Kimmel answered no. Hearing no further questions, Commissioner Morrow made a motion to adopt the four changes. Commissioner Denmon seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Then Mr. Kimmel read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution to ratify the Rule. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner King. This motion also passed with no opposition.

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

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

December 8, 2005

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, December 8, 2005.

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish a hunting season in 2006 for wild turkeys, and

WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of wild turkeys and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting hunting of wild turkeys are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby 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: (December 2005).

§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 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 and Physically Challenged Hunter (Wheelchair Confined) Hunt	March 18 - 19

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. Caddo;

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

iv. DeSoto;

v. Jackson;

vi. Lincoln;

vii. Red River;

viii. Union;

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;

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

iv. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

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;

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: (December 2005).

§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, Thistlethwaite, 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
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
Thistlethwaite	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: (December 2005).

Wayne J. Segrera
Chairman

Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental Final Results began with Mr. Dave Moreland stating he wanted to "close the door" on this project that began in 2002 as a somewhat controversial study. The three

parishes involved in the study were Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge and Iberville and consisted of bottomland hardwood habitat. A legal buck eligible for harvest was defined as one that had 6 points with a point being at least 1 inch long. Also, spikes less than 3 inches were eligible for harvest. Going into the study, staff knew that on Sherburne WMA, some adult bucks did not produce 6 points. From the 2002 data, about 43 percent of the 2 year olds did not have 6 points and 16 percent of the 3 year old and older class bucks could not have been harvested. From a graph shown, Mr. Moreland stated the totals showed less adult antlered bucks were killed during the 3 years of the study than prior to the experiment. Another interesting fact was that there were about 1,000 less bucks harvested during the study and this makes you ask the question, what happened to those bucks. One result of the study, that was part of the objective, was to reduce the 1 ½ year old buck harvest, which averaged 215 per year compared to 452, with the expectation that the bucks would show up as 2 and 3 year old bucks. But the 2 year old buck numbers declined and the 3 year old buck numbers remained the same. A slight increase did occur in the 4 ½ year old harvest which was good. Overall, there were no more older bucks produced than was anticipated. The next chart showed the year male fawns were born, the years of the study and how many were harvested. Staff would continue to fill in the numbers on the table that will show how many deer are killed this season. Mr. Moreland expects the 2 ½ year old harvest to jump up to where it was since hunters can harvest bucks with less than 6 points. As far as physical data, the Department did not expect this to increase unless other management tools were being observed. For the parish of Iberville, the growth and development rates of 2 ½ and 3 ½ year old bucks were way behind the other parishes. Summarizing the results, the 1 ½ year old buck harvest was reduced, the 2 and 3 year old buck harvest did not increase as anticipated, and the 4 ½ year old bucks harvested did increase but were born in the years before the study began. This study was not a quality deer management program, but an antler point restriction program. Mr. Moreland felt the best approach was to pursue a buck limit to reduce the bucks harvested and allow the younger bucks into the older age classes. He then discussed the decline in the overall deer quality on the better habitat sites the State of Mississippi was seeing. Another option for the Department to consider if the buck limit was utilized, was having a tagging program. Mr. Moreland concluded stating copies of the report were sent to local Legislators and organizations interested in the project.

Commissioner Morrow asked what would be the size and antlers on a 1 ½ year old buck under a quality deer management program. Mr. Moreland stated it should weigh at least 125 pounds and have branched antlers with 3 to 8 points. Commissioner Denmon stated he supported the effort and felt it was better than doing nothing. He also supported the idea of a tagging system and asked if there was a move to closer having that in place? Mr. Moreland stated he has worked with staff, the Point-of-Sale license section and hoped to

come this next season with a recommendation. Commissioner Denmon asked if it would be possible to have a system in place for the 2006-07 season? Mr. Moreland felt there could be some type of program, but it may not be through Point-of-Sale. Commissioner Morrow asked if legislative approval was needed to go with a tagging system. Mr. Moreland stated Title 56, Section 108 authorizes the Commission to establish tagging. Commissioner Miller stated the tagging program has been upper most in the comments he has received with northwest Louisiana deer hunters. He added that most of them were eagerly anticipating a tagging program. Commissioner Morrow asked if there was a limit on the number of bucks a hunter can take and Mr. Moreland answered no, but added most clubs restrict the buck limit.

Before moving on to the next item, Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Puckett to provide an update on the hunting season setting process so hunters can plan their vacations. Mr. Puckett stated the Commission directed the staff to develop a procedure for setting the hunting seasons that would bring order and predictability to the process. The proposed protocol was reviewed at this point. He then recommended this item be placed on the January agenda for adoption by the Commission in the current or modified form. The process of setting the hunting seasons would be backed up at both ends, beginning in January, having 4 months of public comments in which the Commission or staff could make amendments to the existing framework, continuing with public hearings throughout the state in March, and then in May, the Commission would take its final action on amendments from the previous 4 months. In June, there would be no action. The only time action would be needed after the May meeting was if the Legislative Oversight Committee took action on the amendments and this would occur at the July meeting. Mr. Puckett again recommended that this be placed on the January agenda for formal adoption. Commissioner Denmon asked if a change was made, would it just affect the 2006-07 season. Mr. Puckett stated it could be changed for the upcoming two seasons. Commissioner Denmon then suggested including a hunting season setting schedule on the Department's website. Mr. Puckett stated the protocol, once adopted by the Commission, could be placed on the website. Chairman Sagrera then requested this be put on the January agenda and go forward from there.

Deer/Dog Task Force Update was handled by Mr. Dave Moreland. A request by the legislature was made to the Commission to investigate deer hunting with dogs in the State. The Hunting Regulations Committee of the Commission would oversee the operations of the Task Force meetings. Letters were sent out and 18 responses from groups or individuals that indicated they would serve on the Task Force have been received. Mr. Moreland asked members of the Hunting Regulations Committee to establish a date for the first meeting. Commissioner Denmon stated they would hold the first meeting on January 5 after the regular Commission

Meeting. He then asked for help in coordinating the meeting to which Mr. Moreland stated he would handle the logistics. Commissioner Morrow asked for a copy of the packet sent to the 18 individuals. Commissioner King also asked for a list of the individuals as well as the packet. Then he asked if there were Basin representatives on the list and Mr. Moreland answered yes, there were plenty.

Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates began with Mr. Phil Bowman stating a Notice of Intent on this subject was authorized in June 2005. Since then, meetings have been held with both sides of the issue as well as staff researching the comments received. Rather than amending the current Notice of Intent, staff felt it would be better to let that one expire and adopt a new Notice of Intent. He then introduced Mrs. Maria Davidson and stated she would go over the changes. Mr. Bowman assured everyone that the comments received from the original Notice of Intent would be incorporated and summarized in a letter to the Legislative Committees. Mrs. Davidson stated the changes included adding the word "wild" back into the new Notice of Intent; exceptions and exemptions were included for the entire list of animals and not just non-human primates; crediting organizations for sanctuaries was changed to the American Zoological Association instead of the American Sanctuary Association; adding further restrictions for sanctuaries such as prohibiting them from breeding or selling any individual animals, the animals must be housed in a manner that would prevent public contact, and the animals cannot be transported to public places; changed the definition of service animals; and listing the documents required to grandfather in animals and further restrictions were added. Commissioner Denmon stated he received comments on the original Notice of Intent and asked if the new proposal addressed most of those concerns. Mrs. Davidson stated they met with primate owners, staff from the Department of Health and Hospitals, CBC and zoos and came up with this new proposal. Commissioner Denmon asked what will be the public comments on the revised document. Mrs. Davidson stated the primate owners were not happy with the original proposal and would still be unhappy. But public protection was first and foremost in going the direction staff took. Commissioner Morrow asked Mrs. Davidson if she knew how many non-human primate owners there are outside of zoos. Mrs. Davidson stated there was no way to gather that information without them coming forward voluntarily. Chairman Segrera asked if the process was the same with having one Notice of Intent expire and adopting another. Mr. Puckett stated yes, the process would begin again. Chairman Segrera asked Mrs. Davidson to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Samanie made a motion to adopt the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Miller. The motion passed with no opposition.

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

RESOLUTION

Addition of Non-human Primates to the List
of Potentially Dangerous Quadrupeds

Adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

December 8, 2005

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:6(30) relative to non-human primates (primates), provides that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding the purchase and possession of primates; to provide issuance of certain permits; and to provide for related matters, and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that possession of certain potentially dangerous primates poses significant hazards to public safety and health, is detrimental to the welfare of the animals, and may have negative impacts on conservation and recovery of some threatened and endangered species, and

WHEREAS, the size and strength of such animals in concert with their natural and unpredictable and/or predatory nature can result in severe injury or death when an attack upon a human occurs. Often such attacks are unprovoked and a person other than the owner, often a child, is the victim. Furthermore, there is no approved rabies vaccine for such animals, so even minor scratches and injuries inflicted upon humans or other animals could be deadly, and

WHEREAS, responsible possession of these potentially dangerous primates necessitates that they be confined in secure facilities. Prolonged confinement is by its nature stressful to these animals and proper long-term care by experienced persons is essential to the health and welfare of these animals and to society, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby include non-human primates with potentially dangerous quadrupeds in the rules and regulations promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F, and does hereby adopt the attached notice of intent.

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

Wayne J. Sagrera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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 regulations for possession of potentially dangerous quadrupeds by adding non-human primates.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds

§115. Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates

A. This Commission finds that possession of certain potentially dangerous quadrupeds and non-human primates poses significant hazards to public safety and health, is detrimental to the welfare of the animals, and may have negative impacts on conservation and recovery of some threatened and endangered species.

1. The size and strength of such animals in concert with their natural and unpredictable and/or predatory nature can result in severe injury or death when an attack upon a human occurs. Often such attacks are unprovoked and a person other than the owner, often a child, is the victim. Furthermore, there is no approved rabies vaccine for such animals, so even minor scratches and injuries inflicted upon humans or other animals could be deadly.

2. Responsible possession of these potentially dangerous wild quadrupeds and non-human primates necessitates that they be confined in secure facilities. Prolonged confinement is by

its nature stressful to these animals and proper long-term care by experienced persons is essential to the health and welfare of these animals and to society.

3. Certain of these animals are listed as endangered species and others are so similar in appearance to endangered subspecies as to make practical distinction difficult. This similarity of appearance may provide a means to market illegally obtained endangered animals and can limit the effective enforcement of endangered species laws.

B. This Commission regulation prohibits importation and private possession of certain wild quadrupeds and non-human primates as follows.

C. 1. Except as provided herein, it shall be unlawful to import into, possess, purchase or sell No person shall possess within the State of Louisiana, by any means whatsoever including but not limited to transactions conducted via the internet, any of the following species or its subspecies of live wild quadrupeds or non-human primates, domesticated or otherwise (hereinafter "listed animals"):

- a. Cougar or mountain lion (Felis concolor)
- b. Black bear (Ursus americanus)
- c. Grizzly bear (Ursus arctos)
- d. Polar bear (Ursus maritimus)
- e. Red wolf (Canis rufus)
- f. Gray wolf (Canis lupus)
- g. Wolf dog hybrid (Canis lupus or Canis rufus x Canis familiaris)
- h. All non-human primates

D. 2. Valid game breeder license holders for these species listed a-f above legally possessed prior to October 1, 1988, will be "grandfathered" and renewed annually until existing captive animals expire, or are legally transferred out of state, or are transferred to a suitable public facility. No additional listed animals may be acquired.

3. The prohibition against wolf-dog hybrids will expire January 1, 1997. Persons are cautioned that local ordinances or other state regulations may prohibit possession of these animals. ~~After January 1, 1997 an~~ Any animal which appears indistinguishable from a wolf, or is in any way represented to be

a wolf ~~may~~ shall be considered to be a wolf in the absence of bona fide documentation to the contrary.

4. The following organizations and entities shall be exempt from this regulation, including permitting:

a. Zoos accredited or certified by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA);

b. Research facilities as defined in the Animal Welfare Act as found in the United States Code Title 7, Chapter 54, §2132(e), including but not limited to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Primate Center, the Tulane National Primate Research Center, and Chimp Haven, Inc. located in Shreveport, LA; and

c. Any person transporting any listed animal through the State if the transit time is not more than 24 hours and the animal is at all times maintained within a confinement sufficient to prevent escape and contact with the public.

5. The following organizations and entities may be exempted from this regulation after applying for and receiving a permit from the Department to possess any listed animal under the following conditions:

a. Other zoos and educational institutions not covered under Subparagraph 4.c. above. The Secretary shall determine whether to issue a permit and any conditions for the permit on a case by case basis.

b. Animal Sanctuaries accredited or certified by AZA. Permitted Sanctuaries are prohibited from breeding or selling any listed animal. The animals must be housed in such a manner as to prevent public contact. Permitted sanctuaries are prohibited from transporting these animals to any public building or place where they may come into contact with the public including, but not limited to schools, hospitals or malls is prohibited.

6. As provided below, the following individuals may be exempted from this regulation after applying for and receiving a permit from the Department to possess a non-human primate. The permit will be for one year and must be renewed annually under the following conditions:

a. A physically challenged individual who has exclusive possession of no more than one monkey that is working to aid and assist said individual with his/her disability and where the monkey has been obtained through and trained by a licensed and accredited non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of lives for physically challenged.

b. An individual who legally possesses one or more non-human primates prior to the effective date of this regulation and who can prove legal ownership is authorized to keep those non-human primates but is prohibited from acquiring any additional non-human primates by any means whatsoever, including breeding.

c. The individuals listed in this subsection must annually apply for and receive a permit from the Department. The permit application shall include:

i. The name, address, telephone number, and date of birth of applicant.

ii. A description of each non-human primate applicant possesses, including the scientific name, sex, age, color, weight, and any distinguishing marks.

iii. A photograph of each non-human primate and its permanent enclosure.

iv. The physical location where the non-human primate is to be kept.

v. Proof of legal ownership. (Proof of legal ownership includes original purchase documents, veterinary records, or other documentation, acceptable to the Department demonstrating ownership.)

vi. The microchip or tattoo number of each non-human primate.

vii. A health certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian within one year prior to the date of the application stating that the animal is free of all symptoms of contagious and/or infectious diseases at the time of the examination and that all appropriate tests and preventative measures have been performed as deemed necessary by the veterinarian.

d. Permit holders must house their non-human primates in such a manner as to prevent public contact and are prohibited from transporting their non-human primate to any public building or place where the public may come into contact with the non-human primate, including, but not limited to schools, hospitals or malls.

e. Permit holders must have their non-human primates examined annually by a licensed veterinarian to insure that the animal is free of all symptoms of contagious and/or infectious diseases at the time of examination and all appropriate tests and preventative measures have been performed as deemed necessary by the veterinarian.

f. Permit holders are required to report any escapes to the Department within 24 hours of discovery of the escape.

g. Permit holders are required to submit any changes to the permit information provided in the permit application within 30 days of the date those changes take effect or the permit will be considered invalid.

~~DE. Qualified educational institutions, zoos, and scientific organizations may be exempted from this prohibition on a case by case basis upon written application to the Secretary. Minimum pen requirements for exempted educational institutions, zoos and scientific organizations are as follows:~~

1. Bears

a. single animal: 25 feet long x 12 feet wide x 10 feet high, covered roof;

b. pair: 30 feet long x 15 feet wide x 10 feet high, covered roof;

c. materials: chain link 9 gauge minimum;

d. safety perimeter rail;

e. pool: 6 feet x 4 feet x 18 inches deep with facilities for spraying or wetting bear(s);

2. Wolf

a. 15 feet long x 8 feet wide x 6 feet high per animal, covered roof;

b. secluded den area: 4 feet x 4 feet for each animal;

c. materials: chain link wire or equivalent;

d. safety perimeter rail;

3. Cougar, Mountain lion

a. single animal: 10 feet long x 8 feet wide x 8 feet high, covered roof;

b. pair: 15 feet long x 8 feet wide x 8 feet high, covered roof;

c. materials: chain link 9 gauge minimum;

- d. safety perimeter rail;
- e. claw log;
- f. shelf: 24 inch wide x 8 feet long, 40 inches off floor.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:1356 (December 1995), LR 32: .

This Notice of Intent supplants and supercedes that Notice of Intent published in the Louisiana Register, Volume 31, Number 06, June 20, 2005, pages 1429-1431.

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

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Philip E. Bowman, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Fur & Refuge Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, February 2, 2006.

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).

Wayne J. Sagrera
Chairman

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **April 2006 Meeting** on Thursday, April 6, 2006, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Sagrera asked for **Public Comments**. Mr. George Barisich, United Commercial Fisherman's Association, stated he wanted to see about having the inshore shrimp season extended. About 15 percent of the boats from Plaquemines Parish and 8-10 percent from St. Bernard Parish survived the hurricanes and were catching decent sized shrimp. If the weather stays as it was and the shrimp in Lake Pontchartrain stayed, money could be made from the sale of those shrimp all the way to the end of the season with no harm to

the resource. Mr. Barisich asked the Commission to do what they could to have Secretary Landreneau push the issue. Commissioner Samanie stated he has received a lot of the same calls and was even buying 50-60 count shrimp. He then asked Mr. John Roussel the Department's position. Mr. Roussel stated the shrimp season was set to end on December 20 which was when the 100 count law goes back into effect. He also received inquiries from the industry asking the season be extended east of the Mississippi River. Staff was reviewing data received from trip tickets and the preliminary results were that the shrimp will make the size criteria beyond the projected closure dates. Mr. Roussel emphasized the key to the extension would be receiving data from fishermen that the shrimp still make the legal count size. As soon as the data indicates the shrimp do not meet the count size, the season would be closed. Chairman Sagrera asked if the Secretary had the authority to make those decisions and Mr. Roussel stated that was granted when the season was set in August. Commissioner Samanie emphasized the key word was cooperation, making sure the fishermen cooperate by sending in their trip ticket information. Mr. Roussel added that there generally was a one month lag in trip ticket information, so he asked Mr. Barisich to get word to the fishermen this was needed quicker. Commissioner King added that verification was needed.

Mr. Mitch Jurisich, representing the oyster industry from lower Plaquemines Parish, asked that the oyster season opening be revisited. A lot of the boats from the area were not ready to go to work since they were still trying to piece their lives back together from the hurricanes. He understood the Department was wanting to open the season to obtain information on what was available, but noted 80 percent of the general public would not be able to utilize the resource. Mr. Jurisich asked that if an opening happens, to keep it as brief as possible. He even suggested pushing the opening back to February when power and water may be restored and when the bridge and locks were operating. Again, he asked for a delay in opening the oyster season.

Mr. Jakov Jurisic, an oyster fisherman from Buras, stated he echoed what was stated by Mr. Jurisich. To open the season was not serving the best interest of the industry. The only people that this opening would benefit would be fishermen from other states. Mr. Jurisic again asked that the oyster season not open.

Mr. Brad Robin, a business owner from St. Bernard, agreed with what Mr. Jurisich stated. He commented he was living on his boat, having no facilities, homes, electricity or water. The first thing needed was shipyards to reopen to help fishermen that do go out repair their boats in the event they may hit an underwater object. Mr. Robin asked that the oyster season be delayed and felt it was not fair for fishermen from other states to come fish Louisiana's waters. Chairman Sagrera asked what would be a realistic timeframe for businesses to reopen to help with boat repairs. Mr. Robin stated they have been waiting for three months for equipment to

help clean out canals in St. Bernard Parish. The shipyards were still waiting on parts for their machines. Commissioner Miller asked what would be the position if further down the road fishermen were not ready for the season to open. Mr. Robin stated the longer they wait, the more product there would be. He asked for one month's time to see where they may be then.

Mr. Robert Campo, an oyster fisherman from St. Bernard Parish, stated there were no shipyards or water. He knew that the Coast Guard tried to get into the canals, but came with a boat that was too wide for the canal. The debris in the canals were unexplainable, it had to be seen to be believed. Mr. Campo felt the appropriate time to open the season was next September in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes. He also commented it would not be fair to open the season and have Texas and Mississippi fishermen take their oysters.

Mr. Dennis Pixton, an oyster farmer and harvester from St. Bernard Parish, echoed everything that had been stated. He reminded the Commissioners that in August the biologist reported it would be the worst season in the past 10 years, the numbers were down by 30 percent from the previous year. After the storm, staff reported there was a 60 to 70 percent mortality which did not leave much. Mr. Pixton reported the good news from the biologists was that the reefs have been replenished with a spat catch. Mississippi has closed their season until it was scheduled to reopen next year. He also mentioned opening the oyster season would "open the door" for other fishermen not affected by the storm. One question to consider was would enforcement be able to keep an eye on their leases as well as watch the happenings that may occur with the opening. Oil companies were also concerned about the opening for the safety of the vessels in the area. He then asked that the season not open and felt there were not many fishermen calling wanting the season open. Commissioner Miller asked for an explanation on the oil companies safety concern. Mr. Pixton stated the oil companies concern was with the oyster vessels. Members of the Oyster Task Force, except for one member, were in favor of delaying the oyster season until January. Also during the Task Force meeting, one member tried to compare the effects of this storm to that following Hurricane Betsy and Mr. Pixton felt that was like comparing an ant hill to a mountain.

Mr. John Tesvich, an oyster grower from lower Plaquemines Parish, stated he owns a company with 70 employees that packs and sells oysters shipped all over the country. He also was a victim of Hurricane Katrina but did not agree with the others view on the oyster season. Keeping the season closed would not help the fishermen, commented Mr. Tesvich. He added there was a need to get the boats that can to go out and work. One reason why it was important to get the people to work was that it helped them directly and it created more incentives. The oysters he has received were coming from private leases and those leases were

depleted. Mr. Tesvich commented that if a fisherman cannot go out, then they did not have to go. But he asked why should that keep those boats that can go out from working. Louisiana supplies the country with one-third of the oysters and it was the State's responsibility. Again, he urged to allow those able to work the right to go out. Then he added that to get a market back once it was lost would be a lot harder than keeping a market. He knew of docks that were open even though some had to have water and fuel trucked in. An issue to consider was unemployment, if Mr. Tesvich closed his plant that would be 70 individuals out of work. The holiday season was the traditional oyster time. He urged keeping the season open and felt working the reefs covered with silt from the storms would help cultivate and bring them back. Mr. Tesvich asked that the industry not be micro-managed and knew that it would take care of itself. He stated he did not understand closing the season abruptly on December 23 and concluded urging the Commission to allow the oyster fishermen that can work to go out and fish for oysters instead of fishing for welfare and unemployment. Commissioner King asked how many boats were available pre-Katrina to work the discussed area. Mr. Tesvich felt there were between 150-200 boats. Commissioner King then asked how many were available to work now and Mr. Tesvich said there were about 50 local boats. Commissioner Miller asked if the resistance to fresh Louisiana seafood subsided. Mr. Tesvich stated yes, for the most part. He added he continues to sell to his existing market and they were happy to get the product.

Mr. George Barisich stated that the boats in Violet Canal would not be able to get out since the Coast Guard would only do salvage work and not dredging. The parish would have to hire someone to do the dredge work. Another problem was no easement right has been obtained for the debris. Mr. Barisich requested a delay in opening the season. He then asked the Department what was found when the biologists sampled. Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Puckett if it was proper to ask questions during the public comment period. Mr. Puckett stated the Department was not obliged to respond to the speaker's question, it was the Commission's pleasure. Mr. John Roussel asked the Commission to go back to its August Meeting in which the entire framework for the oyster season on the public grounds was set. The recommendation was to open the season on the public grounds east of the River on October 17. A number of fishermen from the area came to the meeting and asked the season open earlier and a compromise was made giving them a short season in September and still having the main season open in October. With the hurricanes, no openings occurred due to a health closure that precluded the regulatory openings from happening. Following the hurricanes but before the health closure was lifted, the Department sampled the reefs. The storms impact on the reefs showed direct mortality and a very significant spat set. In response to this information, the Department used the Secretary's authority to make adjustments to delay the opening. Mr. Roussel explained the primary purpose for the delay was to give the spat

set a chance to get a "good foot hold" and begin maturing. If this did not occur, then there would no longer be an issue. But if the spat grew and additional recruitment occurred, this would direct an opening. As it happened, the spat matured and staff felt it could sustain harvest activity. The decision was made in November to set a 12 day season. Reasons for a 12 day season was to find out who can go out and fish the area and there would not be a tremendous risk to the resource. Employees would be on the water to get a better handle on the situation from a biological perspective. Based on the results from the 12 day season, a decision for the future would be made. Mr. Roussel stated he feels for the fishermen, but knew that biologically and for the industry the season was the thing to do. Commissioner Morrow asked what was the recommendation of the Department. Mr. Roussel stated it was to stay with the 12 day season. The Oyster Task Force's position was to keep the season open beyond the 12 days. Statutorily, the Department's obligation was to manage for the benefit of the whole and to manage from a biological perspective. Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Roussel to provide Mr. Barisich with the data he requested.

Commissioner Denmon asked Mr. Moreland if the federal meeting that would allow zoning the state for doves has occurred. Mr. Moreland stated Mr. Mike Olinde has been involved in dove meetings and thought there would be future meetings. He then added that Mr. Olinde would give him a call. Commissioner Denmon encouraged the Department to determine if the federal framework could be changed that would allow the dove season open on the Saturday closest to September 1 which would catch the Labor Day holiday. He asked that Louisiana input this request if there was an opportunity to do so. Mr. Moreland stated staff would check into the request. Chairman Sagrera reminded Mr. Moreland of his request to discuss white-winged doves during those meetings.

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



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

DL:scf

Marianne,

Please review
attached Minutes.

Thanks,

Susan Falcon

WB
12/10

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, December 8, 2005

a presiding.

Frederic Miller
Patrick Morrow
Robert Samanie, III

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present.

Commissioner Henry Mouton was absent from the meeting.

Chairman Sagrera called for a motion for approval of the **November 3, 2005 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Denmon and seconded by Commissioner Morrow. The motion passed with no opposition.

For **Commission Special Announcements** for this month, Chairman Sagrera congratulated Commissioner Morrow on his Governor's appointment to a six year term.

Commissioner Miller stated he and Commissioner Mouton were requested by people and interests from the Lake Charles area to explore the implementation of a reduction in the creel limit for spotted seatrout in the Calcasieu-Sabine Estuary. This would occur in the same area where there is a rule limiting the take of speckled trout over 24 inches to 2 per day. Commissioner Miller asked the staff to prepare a Notice of Intent for presentation at the January Meeting reducing the creel limit for spotted seatrout in that area from 25 to 15 per day with the size limit remaining the same.

Commissioner Morrow stated he received a copy of a letter written by Commissioner Mouton addressed a United States Senator on the Commissioner's letterhead. He stated he had not yet had the opportunity to confirm the contents of the letter but there could be a perception the letter stated a position of the Department. He also did not want the letter to be perceived as his position individually or the Commission as a whole. Commissioner Morrow asked that a protocol be developed such that a statement or a stand from the Commission would be signed by the Chairman after discussion and/or a directive to the Secretary to issue a statement

on behalf of the Commission. He noted he would express his thoughts to Commissioner Mouton and offer him the opportunity to respond. Perhaps at the next meeting, a full discussion could be had on this issue. Commissioner Miller joined with Commissioner Morrow in stating he had no idea whether the letter by Commissioner Mouton was truthful or not. He added he had never heard of or seen the letter and wanted no implications that he would take the same position as stated. Along with Commissioner Morrow, Commissioner Miller disclaimed any knowledge or joinder in the letter and asked that the Minutes reflect his position. Commissioner Denmon fully agreed with the comments by Commissioners Morrow and Miller. He also felt a protocol was needed on how Commissioner's make public statements. Then Commissioner Denmon noted the public does not differentiate the Department from the Commission and asked that a public campaign occur telling what the Commission does and does not do relative to the Department and what the Department does. Commissioner King also agreed with the other comments and asked for direction. Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Don Puckett what would be the proper procedure. Mr. Puckett stated that an oral motion could be adopted to incorporate what Commissioner Morrow made in his statement or it could be formalized by a written resolution for presentation at the next meeting. Commissioner Morrow again stated he wanted Commissioner Mouton's input. Then he asked Mr. Puckett to develop a formal resolution that could be discussed and adopted at the January Meeting. Commissioner Denmon did not want to adopt anything then, but asked that a formal set of rules on this issue be developed. Mr. Puckett stated he could begin with a draft and understood it went beyond sending letters on letterhead. Commissioner Denmon felt, in a general form, some type of protocol was needed. Chairman Sagrera stated that a draft was the way to proceed.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Presentation to Joel Courtney was handled by Secretary Dwight Landreneau filling in for Mr. Donald Gohmert. He began showing a short video on NRCS programs. The Secretary stated the video was done by the Department for Mr. Gohmert when he testified, on behalf of the State, at a White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation. The message from the video was that conservation was the responsibility of all of us throughout the United States and world. In order for this to happen, cooperative working relationships were needed from the Federal side, State side, local government and volunteers. Mr. Gohmert needed collateral for his presentation in Washington, DC and the Department, already participating in conservation, partnered with NRCS in an effort to show the good things going on in Louisiana. A plaque was presented to several Department employees, Mr. Joel Courtney and Mr. Thomas Gresham, and Mr. David Telesco with the Black Bear Conservation Committee for their help with the video.

Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November was given by Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze. November was the first big month for hunting season as well as the first Discover Louisiana Hunting Program that occurred Thanksgiving weekend. Unlawful hunting activity that went on during the month included night hunting, deer and migratory violations. A total of 1,110 citations and 180 written warnings were issued and agents helped with 60 public assists during the month. Lt. Col. LaCaze felt the public was having good hunter success and this was helpful for a lot of people. Six boating accidents were reported during the month with 6 injuries and 1 fatality. This fatality occurred in Lafourche Parish in which the operator struck an underwater object and was ejected. The Aviation Report had a total of 99.9 hours for the three airplanes. Copies of News Releases included three subjects from Avoyelles Parish seeing and killing a 13 point buck on the Black Hawk Plantation; a drug arrest while hunting on Three Rivers WMA; three men cited for taking an alligator near Three Rivers WMA; a Texas person was apprehended doing illegal night hunting in Caddo Parish; and an illegal deer taken in Plaquemines Parish which remains closed to deer hunting due to damage from the hurricanes. The last was a News Release on an agent saving several homes from an out of control fire that was set in a cane field. Chairman Sagrera asked what was the number of fatalities in an average year. Lt. Col. LaCaze stated, over the last few years, the total has been in the mid-30's.

Mr. Fred Kimmel handled the next agenda item, **Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season**. He reminded the Commission a Notice of Intent was presented at the August meeting, and the dates for Area A will be March 25 to April 23, Area B - March 25 to April 16, Area C - March 25 to April 2 and the private lands youth hunt on March 18 and 19. One public comment was received which requested disabled hunters the chance to hunt during the private lands youth hunt. At the November meeting, Mr. Kimmel stated he recommended four changes to the original Notice of Intent. They were to close Pearl River WMA, add a youth season on the Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge, close a small portion of Bossier and Webster Parishes for restocking and allowing wheelchair bound hunters with a permit to hunt during the statewide private lands youth hunt. The Commission did not take any action on the recommendations at the last meeting so Mr. Kimmel asked the Commission to adopt the changes. Chairman Sagrera asked if there were any public comments on the four changes and Mr. Kimmel answered no. Hearing no further questions, Commissioner Morrow made a motion to adopt the four changes. Commissioner Denmon seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. Then Mr. Kimmel read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution to ratify the Rule. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner King. This motion also passed with no opposition.

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
Thistlethwaite	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: (December 2005).

Wayne J. Sagrera
Chairman

Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental Final Results began with Mr. Dave Moreland stating he wanted to "close the door" on this project that began in 2002 as a somewhat controversial study. The three

parishes involved in the study were Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge and Iberville and consisted of bottomland hardwood habitat. A legal buck eligible for harvest was defined as one that had 6 points with a point being at least 1 inch long. Also, spikes less than 3 inches were eligible for harvest. Going into the study, staff knew that on Sherburne WMA, some adult bucks did not produce 6 points. From the 2002 data, about 43 percent of the 2 year olds did not have 6 points and 16 percent of the 3 year old and older class bucks could not have been harvested. From a graph shown, Mr. Moreland stated the totals showed less adult antlered bucks were killed during the 3 years of the study than prior to the experiment. Another interesting fact was that there were about 1,000 less bucks harvested during the study and this makes you ask the question, what happened to those bucks. One result of the study, that was part of the objective, was to reduce the 1 ½ year old buck harvest, which averaged 215 per year compared to 452, with the expectation that the bucks would show up as 2 and 3 year old bucks. But the 2 year old buck numbers declined and the 3 year old buck numbers remained the same. A slight increase did occur in the 4 ½ year old harvest which was good. Overall, there were no more older bucks produced than was anticipated. The next chart showed the year male fawns were born, the years of the study and how many were harvested. Staff would continue to fill in the numbers on the table that will show how many deer are killed this season. Mr. Moreland expects the 2 ½ year old harvest to jump up to where it was since hunters can harvest bucks with less than 6 points. As far as physical data, the Department did not expect this to increase unless other management tools were being observed. For the parish of Iberville, the growth and development rates of 2 ½ and 3 ½ year old bucks were way behind the other parishes. Summarizing the results, the 1 ½ year old buck harvest was reduced, the 2 and 3 year old buck harvest did not increase as anticipated, and the 4 ½ year old bucks harvested did increase but were born in the years before the study began. This study was not a quality deer management program, but an antler point restriction program. Mr. Moreland felt the best approach was to pursue a buck limit to reduce the bucks harvested and allow the younger bucks into the older age classes. He then discussed the decline in the overall deer quality on the better habitat sites the State of Mississippi was seeing. Another option for the Department to consider if the buck limit was utilized, was having a tagging program. Mr. Moreland concluded stating copies of the report were sent to local Legislators and organizations interested in the project.

Commissioner Morrow asked what would be the size and antlers on a 1 ½ year old buck under a quality deer management program. Mr. Moreland stated it should weigh at least 125 pounds and have branched antlers with 3 to 8 points. Commissioner Denmon stated he supported the effort and felt it was better than doing nothing. He also supported the idea of a tagging system and asked if there was a move to closer having that in place? Mr. Moreland stated he has worked with staff, the Point-of-Sale license section and hoped to

come this next season with a recommendation. Commissioner Denmon asked if it would be possible to have a system in place for the 2006-07 season? Mr. Moreland felt there could be some type of program, but it may not be through Point-of-Sale. Commissioner Morrow asked if legislative approval was needed to go with a tagging system. Mr. Moreland stated Title 56, Section 108 authorizes the Commission to establish tagging. Commissioner Miller stated the tagging program has been upper most in the comments he has received with northwest Louisiana deer hunters. He added that most of them were eagerly anticipating a tagging program. Commissioner Morrow asked if there was a limit on the number of bucks a hunter can take and Mr. Moreland answered no, but added most clubs restrict the buck limit.

Before moving on to the next item, Chairman Segrera asked Mr. Puckett to provide an update on the hunting season setting process so hunters can plan their vacations. Mr. Puckett stated the Commission directed the staff to develop a procedure for setting the hunting seasons that would bring order and predictability to the process. The proposed protocol was reviewed at this point. He then recommended this item be placed on the January agenda for adoption by the Commission in the current or modified form. The process of setting the hunting seasons would be backed up at both ends, beginning in January, having 4 months of public comments in which the Commission or staff could make amendments to the existing framework, continuing with public hearings throughout the state in March, and then in May, the Commission would take its final action on amendments from the previous 4 months. In June, there would be no action. The only time action would be needed after the May meeting was if the Legislative Oversight Committee took action on the amendments and this would occur at the July meeting. Mr. Puckett again recommended that this be placed on the January agenda for formal adoption. Commissioner Denmon asked if a change was made, would it just affect the 2006-07 season. Mr. Puckett stated it could be changed for the upcoming two seasons. Commissioner Denmon then suggested including a hunting season setting schedule on the Department's website. Mr. Puckett stated the protocol, once adopted by the Commission, could be placed on the website. Chairman Segrera then requested this be put on the January agenda and go forward from there.

Deer/Dog Task Force Update was handled by Mr. Dave Moreland. A request by the legislature was made to the Commission to investigate deer hunting with dogs in the State. The Hunting Regulations Committee of the Commission would oversee the operations of the Task Force meetings. Letters were sent out and 18 responses from groups or individuals that indicated they would serve on the Task Force have been received. Mr. Moreland asked members of the Hunting Regulations Committee to establish a date for the first meeting. Commissioner Denmon stated they would hold the first meeting on January 5 after the regular Commission

Meeting. He then asked for help in coordinating the meeting to which Mr. Moreland stated he would handle the logistics. Commissioner Morrow asked for a copy of the packet sent to the 18 individuals. Commissioner King also asked for a list of the individuals as well as the packet. Then he asked if there were Basin representatives on the list and Mr. Moreland answered yes, there were plenty.

Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates began with Mr. Phil Bowman stating a Notice of Intent on this subject was authorized in June 2005. Since then, meetings have been held with both sides of the issue as well as staff researching the comments received. Rather than amending the current Notice of Intent, staff felt it would be better to let that one expire and adopt a new Notice of Intent. He then introduced Mrs. Maria Davidson and stated she would go over the changes. Mr. Bowman assured everyone that the comments received from the original Notice of Intent would be incorporated and summarized in a letter to the Legislative Committees. Mrs. Davidson stated the changes included adding the word "wild" back into the new Notice of Intent; exceptions and exemptions were included for the entire list of animals and not just non-human primates; crediting organizations for sanctuaries was changed to the American Zoological Association instead of the American Sanctuary Association; adding further restrictions for sanctuaries such as prohibiting them from breeding or selling any individual animals, the animals must be housed in a manner that would prevent public contact, and the animals cannot be transported to public places; changed the definition of service animals; and listing the documents required to grandfather in animals and further restrictions were added. Commissioner Denmon stated he received comments on the original Notice of Intent and asked if the new proposal addressed most of those concerns. Mrs. Davidson stated they met with primate owners, staff from the Department of Health and Hospitals, CBC and zoos and came up with this new proposal. Commissioner Denmon asked what will be the public comments on the revised document. Mrs. Davidson stated the primate owners were not happy with the original proposal and would still be unhappy. But public protection was first and foremost in going the direction staff took. Commissioner Morrow asked Mrs. Davidson if she knew how many non-human primate owners there are outside of zoos. Mrs. Davidson stated there was no way to gather that information without them coming forward voluntarily. Chairman Sagrera asked if the process was the same with having one Notice of Intent expire and adopting another. Mr. Puckett stated yes, the process would begin again. Chairman Sagrera asked Mrs. Davidson to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Samanie made a motion to adopt the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Miller. The motion passed with no opposition.

- d. safety perimeter rail;
- e. claw log;
- f. shelf: 24 inch wide x 8 feet long, 40 inches off floor.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:1356 (December 1995), LR 32: .

This Notice of Intent supplants and supercedes that Notice of Intent published in the Louisiana Register, Volume 31, Number 06, June 20, 2005, pages 1429-1431.

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

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Philip E. Bowman, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Fur & Refuge Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, February 2, 2006.

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).

Wayne J. Sagrera
Chairman

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **April 2006 Meeting** on Thursday, April 6, 2006, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Sagrera asked for **Public Comments**. Mr. George Barisich, United Commercial Fisherman's Association, stated he wanted to see about having the inshore shrimp season extended. About 15 percent of the boats from Plaquemines Parish and 8-10 percent from St. Bernard Parish survived the hurricanes and were catching decent sized shrimp. If the weather stays as it was and the shrimp in Lake Pontchartrain stayed, money could be made from the sale of those shrimp all the way to the end of the season with no harm to

the resource. Mr. Barisich asked the Commission to do what they could to have Secretary Landreneau push the issue. Commissioner Samanie stated he has received a lot of the same calls and was even buying 50-60 count shrimp. He then asked Mr. John Roussel the Department's position. Mr. Roussel stated the shrimp season was set to end on December 20 which was when the 100 count law goes back into effect. He also received inquiries from the industry asking the season be extended east of the Mississippi River. Staff was reviewing data received from trip tickets and the preliminary results were that the shrimp will make the size criteria beyond the projected closure dates. Mr. Roussel emphasized the key to the extension would be receiving data from fishermen that the shrimp still make the legal count size. As soon as the data indicates the shrimp do not meet the count size, the season would be closed. Chairman Sagrera asked if the Secretary had the authority to make those decisions and Mr. Roussel stated that was granted when the season was set in August. Commissioner Samanie emphasized the key word was cooperation, making sure the fishermen cooperate by sending in their trip ticket information. Mr. Roussel added that there generally was a one month lag in trip ticket information, so he asked Mr. Barisich to get word to the fishermen this was needed quicker. Commissioner King added that verification was needed.

Mr. Mitch Jurisich, representing the oyster industry from lower Plaquemines Parish, asked that the oyster season opening be revisited. A lot of the boats from the area were not ready to go to work since they were still trying to piece their lives back together from the hurricanes. He understood the Department was wanting to open the season to obtain information on what was available, but noted 80 percent of the general public would not be able to utilize the resource. Mr. Jurisich asked that if an opening happens, to keep it as brief as possible. He even suggested pushing the opening back to February when power and water may be restored and when the bridge and locks were operating. Again, he asked for a delay in opening the oyster season.

Mr. Jakov Jurisic, an oyster fisherman from Buras, stated he echoed what was stated by Mr. Jurisich. To open the season was not serving the best interest of the industry. The only people that this opening would benefit would be fishermen from other states. Mr. Jurisic again asked that the oyster season not open.

Mr. Brad Robin, a business owner from St. Bernard, agreed with what Mr. Jurisich stated. He commented he was living on his boat, having no facilities, homes, electricity or water. The first thing needed was shipyards to reopen to help fishermen that do go out repair their boats in the event they may hit an underwater object. Mr. Robin asked that the oyster season be delayed and felt it was not fair for fishermen from other states to come fish Louisiana's waters. Chairman Sagrera asked what would be a realistic timeframe for businesses to reopen to help with boat repairs. Mr. Robin stated they have been waiting for three months for equipment to

help clean out canals in St. Bernard Parish. The shipyards were still waiting on parts for their machines. Commissioner Miller asked what would be the position if further down the road fishermen were not ready for the season to open. Mr. Robin stated the longer they wait, the more product there would be. He asked for one month's time to see where they may be then.

Mr. Robert Campo, an oyster fisherman from St. Bernard Parish, stated there were no shipyards or water. He knew that the Coast Guard tried to get into the canals, but came with a boat that was too wide for the canal. The debris in the canals were unexplainable, it had to be seen to be believed. Mr. Campo felt the appropriate time to open the season was next September in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes. He also commented it would not be fair to open the season and have Texas and Mississippi fishermen take their oysters.

Mr. Dennis Pixton, an oyster farmer and harvester from St. Bernard Parish, echoed everything that had been stated. He reminded the Commissioners that in August the biologist reported it would be the worst season in the past 10 years, the numbers were down by 30 percent from the previous year. After the storm, staff reported there was a 60 to 70 percent mortality which did not leave much. Mr. Pixton reported the good news from the biologists was that the reefs have been replenished with a spat catch. Mississippi has closed their season until it was scheduled to reopen next year. He also mentioned opening the oyster season would "open the door" for other fishermen not affected by the storm. One question to consider was would enforcement be able to keep an eye on their leases as well as watch the happenings that may occur with the opening. Oil companies were also concerned about the opening for the safety of the vessels in the area. He then asked that the season not open and felt there were not many fishermen calling wanting the season open. Commissioner Miller asked for an explanation on the oil companies safety concern. Mr. Pixton stated the oil companies concern was with the oyster vessels. Members of the Oyster Task Force, except for one member, were in favor of delaying the oyster season until January. Also during the Task Force meeting, one member tried to compare the effects of this storm to that following Hurricane Betsy and Mr. Pixton felt that was like comparing an ant hill to a mountain.

Mr. John Tesvich, an oyster grower from lower Plaquemines Parish, stated he owns a company with 70 employees that packs and sells oysters shipped all over the country. He also was a victim of Hurricane Katrina but did not agree with the others view on the oyster season. Keeping the season closed would not help the fishermen, commented Mr. Tesvich. He added there was a need to get the boats that can to go out and work. One reason why it was important to get the people to work was that it helped them directly and it created more incentives. The oysters he has received were coming from private leases and those leases were

depleted. Mr. Tesvich commented that if a fisherman cannot go out, then they did not have to go. But he asked why should that keep those boats that can go out from working. Louisiana supplies the country with one-third of the oysters and it was the State's responsibility. Again, he urged to allow those able to work the right to go out. Then he added that to get a market back once it was lost would be a lot harder than keeping a market. He knew of docks that were open even though some had to have water and fuel trucked in. An issue to consider was unemployment, if Mr. Tesvich closed his plant that would be 70 individuals out of work. The holiday season was the traditional oyster time. He urged keeping the season open and felt working the reefs covered with silt from the storms would help cultivate and bring them back. Mr. Tesvich asked that the industry not be micro-managed and knew that it would take care of itself. He stated he did not understand closing the season abruptly on December 23 and concluded urging the Commission to allow the oyster fishermen that can work to go out and fish for oysters instead of fishing for welfare and unemployment. Commissioner King asked how many boats were available pre-Katrina to work the discussed area. Mr. Tesvich felt there were between 150-200 boats. Commissioner King then asked how many were available to work now and Mr. Tesvich said there were about 50 local boats. Commissioner Miller asked if the resistance to fresh Louisiana seafood subsided. Mr. Tesvich stated yes, for the most part. He added he continues to sell to his existing market and they were happy to get the product.

Mr. George Barisich stated that the boats in Violet Canal would not be able to get out since the Coast Guard would only do salvage work and not dredging. The parish would have to hire someone to do the dredge work. Another problem was no easement right has been obtained for the debris. Mr. Barisich requested a delay in opening the season. He then asked the Department what was found when the biologists sampled. Chairman Sagraera asked Mr. Puckett if it was proper to ask questions during the public comment period. Mr. Puckett stated the Department was not obliged to respond to the speaker's question, it was the Commission's pleasure. Mr. John Roussel asked the Commission to go back to its August Meeting in which the entire framework for the oyster season on the public grounds was set. The recommendation was to open the season on the public grounds east of the River on October 17. A number of fishermen from the area came to the meeting and asked the season open earlier and a compromise was made giving them a short season in September and still having the main season open in October. With the hurricanes, no openings occurred due to a health closure that precluded the regulatory openings from happening. Following the hurricanes but before the health closure was lifted, the Department sampled the reefs. The storms impact on the reefs showed direct mortality and a very significant spat set. In response to this information, the Department used the Secretary's authority to make adjustments to delay the opening. Mr. Roussel explained the primary purpose for the delay was to give the spat

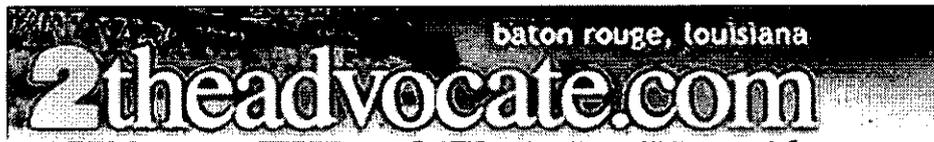
set a chance to get a "good foot hold" and begin maturing. If this did not occur, then there would no longer be an issue. But if the spat grew and additional recruitment occurred, this would direct an opening. As it happened, the spat matured and staff felt it could sustain harvest activity. The decision was made in November to set a 12 day season. Reasons for a 12 day season was to find out who can go out and fish the area and there would not be a tremendous risk to the resource. Employees would be on the water to get a better handle on the situation from a biological perspective. Based on the results from the 12 day season, a decision for the future would be made. Mr. Roussel stated he feels for the fishermen, but knew that biologically and for the industry the season was the thing to do. Commissioner Morrow asked what was the recommendation of the Department. Mr. Roussel stated it was to stay with the 12 day season. The Oyster Task Force's position was to keep the season open beyond the 12 days. Statutorily, the Department's obligation was to manage for the benefit of the whole and to manage from a biological perspective. Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Roussel to provide Mr. Barisich with the data he requested.

Commissioner Denmon asked Mr. Moreland if the federal meeting that would allow zoning the state for doves has occurred. Mr. Moreland stated Mr. Mike Olinde has been involved in dove meetings and thought there would be future meetings. He then added that Mr. Olinde would give him a call. Commissioner Denmon encouraged the Department to determine if the federal framework could be changed that would allow the dove season open on the Saturday closest to September 1 which would catch the Labor Day holiday. He asked that Louisiana input this request if there was an opportunity to do so. Mr. Moreland stated staff would check into the request. Chairman Sagrera reminded Mr. Moreland of his request to discuss white-winged doves during those meetings.

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

Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

DL:scf



New plans need look-see from hunters

By **JOE MACALUSO**

Outdoors writer

Have a problem with your hunting season, and want to do something about it?

Kinda odd to write this now that we're in the middle of the hunting season, but now's the time to start thinking about hunting next year and the next and the next.

Most of you know that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission have set the deer, rabbit, squirrel and quail seasons -- game native to our state -- to the 2007-2008 seasons.

And the mechanisms are in place to continue those advanced seasons for as long as most of us want to know season dates. That's because the LWFC demanded a shift from specific dates for openings and closings of resident-game season to specific days.

For instance, the squirrel and rabbit seasons are to open the first Saturday in October, no matter the specific date.

Same's true with the deer seasons: For instance, the Area 6 deer-modern firearms season will open the third Saturday in November, whatever date that falls in years to come.

The commission left the door open for changes, and that's where hunters enter the picture.

The LWFC is changing the way it sets seasons, and while the days are etched in the stone tablets of state law, there's are ways the seasons can be tweaked.

And you are one of the ways.

As today's main outdoors story indicates, the public will have their first of many chances to comment on the hunting seasons come the LWFC's Jan. 5 meeting. That's two months ahead of the schedule the commission worked under for the past umpteen years.

Then, you'll only have until April -- in the past it is was July -- to make any final comment you have to make changes for the upcoming season.

What's more, 13 months from now, the LWFC will push the schedule out farther: the 2008-2009 seasons will be discussed at the January 2007 meeting.

Any changes will be incorporated into the hunting rules documents in May, and then forwarded to the Legislative Oversight Committee for their stamp of approval.

If no changes are forthcoming, the rules could be published as early as the middle of June, rather than the end of August as has been the case in past year.

This new plan will come up for a vote at the Jan. 5 meeting.

The only loophole left in this system is that seasons and limits could be changed if state biologists find that seasons or bag limits need to be decreased or increased because of new biological or habitat findings. That also goes for either-sex deer hunting dates.

These program-schedule changes have been a long time coming and the LWFC and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries folks deserve a pat on the back.

So, if you want something changed, and there are others wanting the same thing, then get a petition and present it to the LWFC Jan. 5.

Don't wait until March or April, because the sooner your issue is debated, the better chance you have to get the changes in the season you want.

More deer

There are more changes ahead for Louisiana deer hunters.

The message came loud and clear last week that the LDWF is moving to some form of a deer-tagging program with an annual limit on taking bucks.

Like it? Don't like it?

Now's the time to let the LWFC know how you feel.

The Jan. 5 meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. at the LDWF office on Quail Drive.

Click here to return to story:

http://www.2theadvocate.com/stories/121105/out_macc01001.shtml



Proposal affects hunting dates

Antler-size hunting experiment doesn't work; deer/dog panel to meet

By JOE MACALUSO

Advocate outdoors writer

With tens of thousands of the state's deer hunters wading into the bulk of their season, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission waded into plans that could alter the future of Louisiana deer hunting.

At Thursday's LWFC meeting, the seven-man commission called for a plan drafted by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries attorney Don Puckett that changes the schedule the LWFC uses to set resident-game seasons.

Two other agenda items, the discussion of the recently completed three-season-long trial on antler-restriction hunting in Pointe Coupee, Iberville and West Baton Rouge parishes and the new Deer/Dog Hunting Task Force, loom large in the future deer seasons.

For more than three decades, the LWFC followed an annual schedule that called for Department of Wildlife and Fisheries wildlife biologists to propose the next season's hunting dates and bag limits at the commission's March meeting.

The proposals were outlined in a notice of intent covering planned season dates and daily and possession limits on deer, squirrel, rabbits, quail, raccoon and, recently, nutria and bobcats. Game preserves and high-fence hunting operations were included, too.

There were two notices of intent, one for private lands and another for the LDWF's wildlife management areas and all federal lands in the state.

Those notices preceded a 120-day period when hunters were asked to comment on the proposals. Though it seldom did, the Legislative Oversight Committee could change the documents.

Then, in July every year, the LWFC voted to approve the changes, then ratified the two notices and the upcoming resident-game seasons were set.

Earlier this year, the LWFC took a different approach and ratified the resident-game notices of intent to cover the next three seasons: 2005--2006, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. The new approach established benchmark days and not specific dates for future resident-game seasons.

"We know that a future deer season will open on the third Saturday in November in one area or another season on the last Saturday in October in another area," LWFC member Terry Denmon said. "We've needed to do that for a long time, and we've finally done it."

Louisiana has eight deer hunting areas, Denmon said, and hunters can plan their vacation days from that outline.

The proposed plan advances the old plan by two months to a January through May comment period.

Puckett told the commission the now-approved three-year plan allowed for LDWF staff and commission amendments to the already-ratified 2006-2007 seasons at the January meeting. He said public comment will be accepted.

Further staff and LWFC amendments and public comment can be introduced at the LWFC's February meeting when, Puckett said, "You (the LWFC) will condense amendments into two notices of intent, adopt the N/Is and publish them in the (state) register."

March and April will be reserved for continued public comment, then in May, the LWFC will debate amendments that came during the January-April meetings.

"Public comment (will be) accepted, but the public should be advised that from this point (the May meeting) on in the process, the commission will be deliberating only those amendments proposed through the April meeting," Puckett outlined.

He said the upcoming season regulations could be printed as early as June 15 or as late as July 10, thereby avoiding the rush to get those regulations printed in August every year.

Puckett added that the new plan will push debate to future seasons to as much as 20 months before a season. For instance, the 2008-2009 season will fall under this new plan in January 2007.

Ratification of this proposed new schedule will be on the Jan. 5 agenda.

"With these changes, we can give the public a predictable schedule and we can bring stability to the process," Puckett said.

Tri-Parish experiment

LDWF Wildlife Division administrator David Moreland said the 2002-05 deer seasons experiment of the six-point antler restriction in the three parishes didn't achieve the goals of producing bucks with larger antler spread nor heavier deer.

Showing a table labeled "Total Antlered Buck Harvest," Moreland said that

the yearly average of bucks taken during the three years dropped from an average of 1,352 per year from 1999-2001 to 1,073 per year of deer in the 1½-4½ age groups during the 2002-2004 seasons.

He said the division's study showed antler size in 4½-year class of bucks decreased in West Baton Rouge Parish from an average of 14.1 inches in 1999 to 13.7 inches in 2004, increased from 13.3 inches in 1999 to 14.4 inches in Pointe Coupee but increased only from 13.1 inches to 13.3 inches in Iberville during the same years.

"From the physical data, we did not expect antler-size or body-weight increases," Moreland said, adding that the three parishes had "generally some of the better (deer) habitat in the state" but the aim of having larger bucks cannot be achieved without deer-herd management or deer-habitat management.

"We did reduce the 1½-year-old buck harvest, but we did not see more 2½ or 3½ year-old bucks, but did see an increase in 4½-year-old bucks.

"However, those bucks were born before the experiment years," Moreland said.

"Rather than the state going to antler restriction, we believe using a buck limit to reduce buck harvest through a tagging program is the best approach," Moreland said.

Task Force

The LWFC agreed that its Hunting Regulations Committee will oversee the newly formed Deer/Dog Task Force, which will hold its first meeting at 1 p.m. Jan. 5 at LDWF headquarters on Quail Drive.

Moreland said 18 groups from around the state petitioned to have members sit on the task force.

The issue stems from complaints by landowners and deer-lease holders in the Atchafalaya Basin over the use of dogs to hunt deer.

In May, the commission decided to expand the resolution of this user-group conflict to a statewide plan covering deer-dog hunting.

Click here to return to story:

http://www.2theadvocate.com/stories/121105/out_proposal001.shtml



LWFC pushes ahead with oyster season

By **JOE MACALUSO**

Advocate outdoors writer

Amidst ratifying the 2006 Turkey Season, hearing a new schedule for the setting hunting seasons and all but declaring dead any move for antler restrictions in deer hunting, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission decided to continue with a planned Monday opening of most of the state's public oyster seed grounds.

Only Wildlife Division administrator David Moreland's presentation about the failures of a three-year experimental six-point deer-hunting regulation in three Capital City area parishes took more time than the pleas from oystermen during Thursday's meeting.

George Barisitch, president of United Commercial Fishermen, led the parade of St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes oyster fishermen asking for a complete closure of the public grounds.

They blamed their troubles on Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, mostly Katrina, and most said their boats have not been repaired or were confined in the Violet Canal, a St. Bernard Parish waterway that allowed commercial and recreation fishermen access to oyster-rich areas east of the Mississippi River. Katrina's storm surge filled in the access route and left commercial fishermen in a virtual dry dock.

"We have no facilities. We cannot get into harbors and we need shipyards to repair our boats if we get damage on our trips," St. Bernard fisherman Fred Robin said. "It's not fair to the public to open the season when we're not ready to fish and the Mississippi season is still closed."

With one exception, the fishermen said they fear Mississippi and Texas boats will fill the void left by the absence of Louisiana oystermen.

The exception was John Testavich from Empire, a fishing community on the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish.

"I don't disagree (with the other's pleas). I'm a Katrina victim. My family lost two boats and we're fighting to recover. That's why it's important to open to season to help us recover. Keeping the season closed won't help us," Testavich said. "No. 1, it's important to put Louisiana oysters on the market.

"We still have boats ... there are 25 boats in Empire ready to go," he said.

Testavich said he operates 70-employee Ameripure Oysters in Franklin and said private oyster leases are not supplying enough oysters to meet the demand.

"The three-month closure (after Katrina and Rita) was unprecedented and if we lose markets this year, where do we go next year?" he said. "Right now, our docks are open and we're using pickup trucks to bring water (for processing) and fuel to run generators. If we don't get out there we will hurt the industry in the long run."

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries assistant secretary John Roussel said there are sufficient public-grounds oysters for the 12-day season.

Roussel said the season could be extended if there are enough oysters.

"We understand their plight, but it's our job to manage for the industry as a whole and base that management on biology," Roussel said.

In other action, the commission agreed its Hunting Regulations Committee will oversee the newly formed Deer/Dog Task Force and its first meeting for 1 p.m. Jan. 5 at LDWF headquarters on Quail Drive.

The seven-man commission, minus Lafayette's Henry Mouton, agreed to a plan that would move resident-game hunting seasons-setting process from a March-July period to a January-April plan.

The LWFC also agreed to abolish the standing Notice of Intent for a new set of regulations governing "potentially dangerous quadrupeds and nonhuman primates" with another 120-day, public-comment period on the new rules.

The LWFC learned that Enforcement Division agents issued 1,110 citations and 180 written warnings in November, learned of a Lafourche Parish boating fatality during that month and approved its April 2006 meeting for April 6 at the LDWF offices on Quail Drive.

Click here to return to story:

http://www.2theadvocate.com/stories/120905/out_lwfc001.shtml

COMMISSION MEETING
ROLL CALL

Thursday, December 8, 2005
Baton Rouge, LA
Wildlife and Fisheries Building

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

Mr. Chairman:

There are 6 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Landreneau is also present.

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
December 8, 2005
9:30 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2005
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Natural Resources Conservation Service Presentation to
Joel Courtney - Donald Gohmert
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November - Keith LaCaze
6. Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season - Fred Kimmel
7. Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental Final Results - Dave
Moreland
8. Deer/Dog Task Force Updates - Dave Moreland
9. Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous
Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates - Phil Bowman
10. Set April 2006 Meeting Date
11. Public Comments
12. Adjournment

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
December 8, 2005
9:30 AM

- ~~1.~~ Roll Call
- ~~2.~~ Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2005
- ~~3.~~ Commission Special Announcements
- ~~4.~~ Natural Resources Conservation Service Presentation to
Joel Courtney - Donald Gohmert
- ~~5.~~ Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November - Keith LaCaze
- ~~6.~~ Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season - Fred Kimmel
- ~~7.~~ Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental Final Results - Dave
Moreland
- ~~8.~~ Deer/Dog Task Force Updates - Dave Moreland
- ~~9.~~ Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous
Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates - Phil Bowman
- ~~10.~~ Set April 2006 Meeting Date
- ~~11.~~ Public Comments
12. Adjournment

LaCaze, B "Keith"

From: Einck, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2005 2:45 PM
To: Burke, Marianne
Subject: LDWF Region 4 Enforcement News (Nov. 29, 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)

2005-344

THREE AVOYELLES PARISH MEN BOOKED FOR TAKING ALTERNATE LIVESTOCK DEER

Agents with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division arrested and booked three men into the Concordia Parish Jail for alleged theft of livestock and taking deer from a public road on Monday, Nov. 21.

Andrew P. Coco, 51, of Moreauville, David Antwine, 45, of Simmesport, and Wallace Dupont, 57, also of Simmesport were arrested for allegedly killing and stealing a large domestic buck deer owned as alternate livestock, and for shooting the deer from a public road.

At approximately 2:45 p.m., the manager of Blackhawk Plantation informed LDWF Sgt. James Parish that he was holding three men who had shot and killed a 13-point buck that scored 178 inches by Boone and Crockett measurement. The deer had been shot through an eight-foot game fence.

Upon arrival Sgt. Parish learned that Coco had shot the deer from Louisiana Hwy. 15 from their vehicle. The deer was valued at \$15,000.

Theft of livestock carries a penalty up to \$5,000 in fines, jail time up to 10 years, or both plus court costs. Taking deer from a public road carries a penalty up to \$350, or jail time up to 60 days, or both plus court costs. One 30-06 rifle was also seized as evidence.

Coco and Dupont were both released on a \$37,500 bond. Antwine was released on a \$47,500 bond.

Agents participating in the case were Sgt. James Parish and Lt. Kenneth Hedricks.

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

L.D.W.F AGENTS MAKE DRUG ARREST ON THREE RIVERS W.M.A.

On Thanksgiving Day, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents arrested and booked a Ville Platte man into the Concordia Parish jail for alleged drug violations on Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Sgt. Russ Kiser was investigating a vehicle parked down a closed road on Three Rivers WMA when he made contact with Joey Lee Moran, 25, who was found with alleged possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. A pipe and one bag of a substance that Kiser suspected was marijuana were seized as evidence. Moran was also cited for three counts of violating WMA rules and regulations.

First offense possession of marijuana carries maximum penalties of a \$500 fine, six months in jail, or both plus court costs. Possession of drug paraphernalia carries a fine up to \$500, jail time up to six months, or both plus court costs. Each violation of WMA rules and regulations carries maximum penalties of a \$350 fine, 60 days in jail, or both plus court costs.

Agents participating in the case were Sgt. Russ Kiser, Sr. Agent Joey Tarver, Agent Douglas Anderson Jr. and Lt. Kenneth Hedricks.

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

L.D.W.F. AGENTS CITE THREE MEN FOR ALLIGATOR POACHING

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited three Oakdale residents for two alleged alligator violations on Nov. 24 in Red River.

Danny K. Ware, 36, Daniel K. Ware, 18, and Jeremy T. Greenlee, 27, were cited for taking alligators during a closed season and taking alligators without a license. Danny K. Ware and Daniel K. Ware were also cited for hunting raccoons illegally.

Agent Douglas Anderson Jr. was on patrol on Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area at approximately 11:45 p.m. when he observed a boat approaching the boat launch on the Red River. Anderson then observed Danny K. Ware throw an alligator measuring approximately three feet in length overboard. Once agent Anderson made contact with the individuals he also found them to be in possession of one raccoon. It is illegal to take raccoons from a boat and without the aid of a dog.

Taking alligators during a closed season carries a fine up to \$750, jail time up to 120 days, or both plus court costs. Taking alligators without a license is punishable by a fine up to \$500, jail time up to 90 days, or both plus court costs. Hunting raccoons illegally has a fine up to \$500, jail time up to 90 days, or both plus court costs.

Agents participating in the case were Agent Douglas Anderson Jr., Sr. Agent Joey Tarver, and Sgt. Russ Kiser.

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

LaCaze, B "Keith"

From: Einck, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2005 2:50 PM
To: Burke, Marianne
Subject: LDWF Region 1 Enforcement News (Nov. 29, 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)

2005-342

TEXAS MAN CITED FOR ILLEGAL NIGHT DEER HUNTING

A Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Enforcement Division senior agent cited a Texas man in north Caddo Parish for allegedly hunting deer at night on Nov. 22.

Senior agent Frank Reger cited Marcio Ray Stanford, 49, of Bivins, Texas for hunting deer during illegal hours or with artificial light, hunting deer from a public road, illegal spotlighting from a public road and hunting from a moving vehicle.

Reger received information from the Caddo Sheriff's Office concerning a vehicle found spotlighting from a public road near an industrial complex south of Vivian. On arrival, Reger found two loaded rifles in the front seat of the truck with a spotlight mounted on one of the rifles.

The penalty for deer hunting during illegal hours is a fine between \$900 and \$950, or 120 days in jail, or both plus court costs and forfeiture of anything seized, which included two rifles and a scope-mount spotlight. Hunting deer from a public road carries a fine between \$100 and \$350, or 60 days in jail, or both plus court costs. Hunting from a moving vehicle is punishable by a fine between \$250 and \$500, or 90 days in jail, or both plus court costs.

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

-30-

From: Einck, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2005 2:39 PM
To: Burke, Marianne
Subject: LDWF Region 9 Enforcement News (Dec. 6, 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)

2005-355

PLAQUEMINES PARISH RESIDENT CITED FOR ILLEGAL DEER

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division agents cited a Plaquemines Parish resident for multiple deer violations in St. Mary and Plaquemines parishes.

Ludger Couvillion, 24, from Pointe a la Hache, was issued the citations after agents received a complaint of a man cleaning two doe deer in Morgan City on Dec. 2. The agents made contact with Couvillion and interviewed him. He allegedly claimed to have taken the does on Dec. 1 near his hometown.

The deer hunting season in that area of Plaquemines Parish has been closed since Hurricane Katrina, Dec. 1 was not a doe day and the daily bag limit on deer is one with antlers and one without antlers when legal.

Couvillion was issued a citation in St. Mary Parish for possession of illegally taken deer. He was also issued a citation in Plaquemines Parish for taking deer during a closed season and taking more than the limit of deer.

The penalty for possession of illegally taken deer is a fine between \$400 and \$750, or 120 days in jail plus forfeiture of anything seized in connection with the violation. The penalty for taking deer during a closed season is a fine between \$900 and \$950, or 120 days in jail plus the forfeiture of anything seized in connection with the violation. Taking deer over the limit carries a penalty between \$250 and \$500 in fines, or 90 days in jail or both. In addition to the criminal penalties, Couvillion faces civil restitution for the value of the deer, which is set at \$524.54 each.

The two deer were seized and later donated to charity. Couvillion's pick-up truck was seized on a LDWF seizure order and is pending the court outcome.

Agents involved in this case were Sgt. Ross Mire and Senior Agent Winston Michel.

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

2005-356

LAPLACE MAN ARRESTED FOR HUNTING DURING ILLEGAL HOURS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division agents arrested Randy Walker, 40, of LaPlace for allegedly hunting during illegal hours, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and resisting arrest on Nov. 25.

Agents claim that at approximately 6:30 p.m. they observed Walker and a juvenile companion using a hand held flashlight and two air rifles to hunt small game on the river side of the Mississippi River levee near Hwy 44 in LaPlace.

The agents stopped and disarmed the subjects and were in the process of issuing citations when Walker fled the scene. The agents chased him on foot and a brief physical altercation ensued. The agents were able to subdue Walker and place him under physical arrest. He was later booked into the St. John Parish jail.

If convicted of hunting wild quadrupeds during illegal hours, Walker faces fines between \$250 and \$500, or six months in jail or both. The penalty for contributing to the delinquency of a minor is a fine of \$500, or six months in jail or both. Resisting arrest carries a fine of \$500, or six months in jail or both.

Agents involved in this case were Senior Agent Aron Hastings and Cadet Eddie Ridgel.

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

2005-357

L.D.W.F. ENFORCEMENT AGENT AIDS IN SAVING HOMES FROM OUT OF CONTROL FIRE

A Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division agent helped save homes from a field fire in Assumption Parish on Dec. 4.

Lt. Leslie Rulf was on patrol near the intersection of La. Hwys 398 and 1010 when he noticed a fire in a cane field near the intersection. The fire was traveling in the direction of residences located nearby. After a few minutes of observation, Lt. Rulf determined the fire was burning out of control and that homes were in jeopardy.

Lt. Rulf contacted the residents of the homes and advised them of the danger and got them out of the homes. He then contacted the local fire departments and began using a garden hose to wet down the yards in order to prevent the fire from spreading closer to the dwellings.

After the arrival of the fire trucks, Lt. Rulf assisted the local fire department in saturating the area and extinguishing the fire before the homes sustained any structural damage.

After the fires were put out, the fire department determined that the source of the fire was from a local sugar cane farmer who had been doing agricultural burnings of his fields, but had not taken in account the direction of the prevailing winds.

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

-30-

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

NOVEMBER, 2005

REGION 1: MINDEN

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

TOTAL CASES	85
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Angling W/O Resident License
2	Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegally (Nets)
2	Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Fish W/O Commercial License
2	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License (Hoop Net)
3	Transport W/O Required License (Non-Resident)
2	Using Lead Nets In Other Than Overflow Regions
5	Hunting W/O Resident License
4	Hunting W/O Non-Resident License
4	Hunting From Moving Vehicle And/Or Aircraft
2	Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer
1	Possession Live Game Quadrupeds Or Wild Game Birds W/O Permit
1	Harassment Of Person Lawfully Hunting
3	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
5	Hunt W/O Non-Resident Big Game License
1	Hunt Deer Closed Area (Dept Reg)
2	Hunt Or Take Deer Or Bear Illegal Hours Or With Artificial Light

4	Hunt Or Take Deer From Public Road
3	Hunt Or Take Illegal Deer Open Season
1	Field Possession Deer Meat W/O Tag
2	Fail To Maintain Sex Identification
3	Failure To Wear Hunter Orange
1	Hunt W/O Muzzleloader License (Resident)
1	Hunting Ducks Or Geese W/O Federal Stamp
1	Hunting MGB W/Unplugged Gun
11	Failure To Abide By Rules & Regulations On WMA
4	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit
2	Resisting An Officer
2	Illegal Spotighting From Public Road
2	Intentional Littering
2	Violate Interstate Commerce Regulations (Lacy Act)
2	Operate ATV On Public Road
2	Obtain License By Fraud
2	Discharge Firearm From Public Road

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 31

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Fishing W/O Resident Pole License

1	Possession Wild Quadrupeds Or Wild Game Birds W/O Permit
1	Hunt MGB W/O State MGB License
11	Failure To Wear Hunter Orange
14	Failure To Abide By Rules & Regulations On WMA
1	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	
<p>1 – Live Female Coon (Turned Over To Dept of Health); 1 – 12ga Shotgun (Being Held At R-1 Office); 2 – License Receipts (Resident Privileges & WMA Permit) (Being Held At R-1 Office); 14 – WMA Check-In Permits (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Remington 270cal Rifle W/2 Rounds (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 Resident Basic & 1 Big Game License (Being Held At R-1 Office); 8 – Squirrels (Being Held At R-1 Office); 28 Pounds Frozen Shrimp (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – 870 Remington 20ga Shotgun (Released To Owner); 3 – Doe Deer & 1 – Spike Buck (Donated); 1 – Remington 30-06 Rifle W/Bushnell Scope (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Remington 308cal Rifle W/ Tasco Scope (Being Held At R-1 Office); 1 – Scope Mount Spotlight (Being Held At R-1 Office); 10 – Crappie & 4 – Bream (Donated); 4 Flathead Catfish, 2 – Gar, 3 Freshwater Drum (Released Back Into Water); 1 – 14' Jon Boat (Being Held At R-1 Office); 4 – Hoop Nets W/Leads (Being Held At R-1 Office)</p>	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 1:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
00	Boating
9	Commercial Fishing
2	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
12	Miscellaneous
3	Recreational Fishing

57	State Hunting/Trapping
31	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	73
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating
2	Angle Without A Non-Resident License
1	Angle Without A Pole License
4	Angle Without A Resident License
4	Hunt From A Moving Vehicle
7	Violate National Wildlife Refuge Regulations
3	Failure to Wear Hunter's Orange
5	Littering
3	Hunt Without A Resident Big Game License
1	Not Abiding By Commission Rules & Regulations/Illegal Mesh
1	Take Illegal Deer Open Season
4	Hunt Without A Basic Resident License
1	Not Abiding By Hunter Education Rules & Regulations
1	Operate ATV On Public Road
15	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA
2	Hunt MGB With An Unsigned Federal Duck Stamp

1	Hunt MGB With Lead Shot
2	Hunt Deer Closed Area On WMA
2	Hunt Deer From A Public Road
1	Failure To Abide By Commission Rules & Regulations
1	Discharge Firearm From Public Road
1	Take Deer Illegal Methods
1	Possess Over The Limit Of Deer
2	Hunt Deer Illegal Methods
1	Violate Non-toxic Shot Requirements (Lead)
2	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
2	Possess Wild Quadrupeds Without A License

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 12

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Angle Without A License
11	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations on WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1- Hog, 1- Doe Deer, 1- 10 Pt. Deer, 1- 5 Pt. Deer, 1- Widgeon Duck, 1-Remington #8 Lead Shotgun Shell, 2-Shoveler Ducks, 2-Unsigned Unattached Federal Duck Stamps, 8-Deer, 1-Bag Rice Bran, 1k- Marlin 30 – 30, 1- Savage 270 Rifle; 1-Browning 7 Mag. 24-20 Gauge Lead Shot; 4-Raccoons; 2-Ruger 10-22 Rifles.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2 :

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing
11	Federal Migratory
5	Littering
2	Miscellaneous
7	Recreational Fishing
44	State Hunting/Trapping
12	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 15

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
15	Public Assistance

REGION 3: ALEXANDRIA

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

TOTAL CASES	190
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating
4	Angling W/O A License
3	Hunt Wild Quads Illegal Hours
18	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
4	Hunt, Stand, Loiter From Public Road
14	Hunt Deer Illegal Method
15	Hunt Deer From Public Road
9	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
2	Hunt Deer With Illegal Weapon
4	Take Over Limit Of Deer
1	Discharge Firearm From Public Road
15	Fail To Wear Hunter Orange
7	Hunt W/O Resident License
6	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
3	Hunt Across Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way
6	Possession Of Illegally Taken Deer Open Season

3	Take Illegal Deer Open Season
3	Hunt With Unplugged Gun
1	Hunt W/O Non-Resident License
1	Hunt W/O Resident Muzzleloader License
7	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit
39	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
1	Transport Of Completely Dressed MGB's
2	Take Ducks Closed Season
1	Possession Of Live MGB Illegally
1	Hunt MGB W/Unplugged Gun
1	Violate Non-Toxic Shot Requirements
1	Obtain License Fraudulently
1	Contest Fraud
2	Operate ATV On Public Road
1	Negligent Injury
4	Possession Of Marijuana
1	Open Container Of Alcoholic Beverage
1	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 6

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Possession Of Wild Quads W/O Permit
1	Hunt W/O Resident License
1	Hunt MGB W/O State MGB License
1	Fail To Comply With Hunter Safety Requirement
2	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
8 Deer, 7 Rifles, 1 Shotgun, 3 Lights, 1 Duck, 2 Marijuana Bags, And 6 Black Bass.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
8	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
6	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
10	Miscellaneous
4	Recreational Fishing
161	State Hunting/Trapping

6	Written Warnings
----------	-------------------------

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 11

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
11	Public Assistance

REGION 4: FERRIDAY

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

TOTAL CASES	130
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Boating Safety Violations
2	Angling W/O A License
3	Hunting From Moving Vehicle
3	Hunt or Take Deer Illegal Hours
1	Hunt Deer Illegal Methods
5	Hunt or Take Deer From Public Road
1	Possess Over Limit Of Deer
1	Possession Of Illegally Taken Deer Open Season
1	Failure To Comply W/Hunters Orange Regulations
2	Hunt Raccoons Illegally
3	Take Alligators W/O License
3	Take Alligators Closed Season
1	Hunting Ducks W/O Federal Stamp
1	Transport Completely Dressed MGB
3	Violate Non-Toxic Shot Requirement
2	Hunting Ducks Closed Season

3	Take Over Limit Of Ducks
68	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA
10	Hunt On WMA Without WMA Hunting Permit
1	Resisting An Officer
4	Theft Of Livestock
2	Illegal Possession Of Drugs or Marijuana
4	Other than Wildlife & Fisheries
2	Discharge Firearm From Public Road

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 9

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA
1	Hunting On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1 Pipe; 1 Marijuana; 23 Ducks; 7 Deer; 6 Guns

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Boating

0	Commercial Fishing
10	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
17	Miscellaneous
2	Recreational Fishing
97	State Hunting/Trapping
9	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 13

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
13	Public Assistance

REGION 5: LAKE CHARLES

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

TOTAL CASES	110
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
12	Boating
2	Angling W/O A License
1	Fail To Have Intact (Saltwater)
1	Take Or Poss. U/S Black Drum (Rec)
1	Take Or Poss. O/L Black Drum (Rec)
1	Take Or Poss. Comm. Fish W/O Vessel Lic.
2	Hntg. W/O A Res. License
5	Hntg. From A Moving Vehicle
1	Hntg. W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer
2	Hntg. Wild Game Quads And/Or Wild Game Birds Illegal Hours
1	Hunt Across Public Road Or Road Right Of Way
3	Hunt, Stand, Loiter From Public Road
1	Hntg. W/O Res. Big Game License
2	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegal Hours Or W/Artificial Light
1	Hunt Or Take Deer From Public Road
3	Fail To Wear Hunter's Orange

2	Hunt/Trap On D Map Lands W/O Permit From Owner/Lessee
1	Poss. O/L of Deer
1	Hunt Turkey W/Rifle
1	Hunt/Take Turkey Closed Season
3	Hunting Ducks Or Geese W/O Federal Stamp
1	Hntg. MGB W/Unplugged Gun
2	Violate Non Toxic Shot Requirement
3	Take/Poss. O/L Of Ducks
2	Taking Ibis – No season
2	Taking Or Poss. Of Other Non Game Birds No Season
1	Miscellaneous Federal Violation
3	Hntg. MGB W/O State Migratory License
2	Hntg. MGB W/O State Hntg. License
32	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
2	Hntg. On WMA W/O WMA Permit
1	Illegal Poss. Of Drugs Or Marijuana
2	Gross Littering
1	Violation Of Probation Or License Revocation
8	Operate ATV Vehicle On Public road

1	Discharge Firearm From Public Road
---	------------------------------------

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 16

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	No Boat Registration Certificate In Possession
1	Expired Boat Registration Certificate
1	Failure To Comply W/PFD Requirements
2	Angling W/O A License
7	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
1	Hntg. W/O A Resident License
1	Improper Or No Fire Extinguisher
1	Failure To Have PFD On Person Under 13 While Underway

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1 Doe Deer; 4 Buck Deer; 1 Turkey Hen; 1 Unmarked Hog; 1 Teal; 53 Ducks; 2 Shoveler's; 1 Snow; 4 Mourning Doves; 3 Ibis; 1 Egret; 9 Pheasants; 1 Squirrel; 8 Undersized Black Drum; 16 Fish Filets; 4 Weapons W/Scopes; Marijuana; Liter

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
12	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing

19	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
11	Miscellaneous
5	Recreational Fishing
26	State Hunting/Trapping
16	Written Warnings
34	Wildlife Management Areas

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 4

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Public Assistance

REGION 6: OPELOUSAS

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

TOTAL CASES	51
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Boating
1	Take/Possession Of Other Non-Game Birds-No Season
12	Not Abiding by Rules/Regulations On WMA
1	Take/Possess Spotted Fawn
1	Bow Hunt W/O Bow License
6	Angling W/O License
3	Hunt W/O Resident License
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
4	Hunt From A Moving Vehicle
5	Hunt Raccoons Illegally
1	Reckless Operation Of A Vehicle
1	Flight From An Officer
2	Criminal Trespass
2	Hunt From A Public Road
2	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours With Artificial Light
3	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Hunting Permit

1	Fail To Wear Hunter Orange
1	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 46

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Boating
5	Use WMA W/O License Or Stamp
30	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
2	Angling W/O License
1	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange
2	Hunt W/O Resident License
2	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
2	Hunt On WMA W/O WMA Permit

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
5 Deer, Great Blue Heron Feathers, 1 Black Bass, 2 Rifles, 2 Photographs, 1 Sample Of Rice Bran, 1 Sample Of Corn

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Boating

0	Commercial Fishing
1	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
19	Miscellaneous
7	Recreational Fishing
20	State Hunting/Trapping
46	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 0

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REGION 7: BATON ROUGE

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

TOTAL CASES	169
	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
10	Boating
17	Angling Without Resident License
2	Angling Without Resident Saltwater License
1	Angling Without Resident Pole License
4	Angling Without Non Resident License
1	Angle Without Non Resident Saltwater License
1	No Fresh Products License
2	Sell Fish Without Retail License
1	Sell & Purchase Game Fish
1	Fail To Maintain Records
1	Take Alligator Closed Season
6	Hunt Without Basic License
5	Hunt Without Big Game License
2	Hunt Without Bow License
2	Hunt Without Muzzleloader License
1	Hunt Without Basic Non Resident License

1	Hunt Without Non Resident Big Game License
10	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange
18	Violate WMA Rules And Regulations
3	Hunt Deer Illegal Methods
2	Illegal Spotighting From Public Road
15	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
14	Hunt Deer Public Road
15	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
1	Take Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
2	Hunt With Unplugged Gun
1	Take Over the Limit Of Deer
2	Possess Wild Quadruped (Deer) Without Permit
1	Hunt Closed Area
1	Hunt With A Silencer
1	Hunt Migratory Game Birds With Unplugged Gun (Federal)
1	Possession Of Illegal Type Fire Arm (Federal)
1	Reckless Operation Of A Vehicle
1	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
1	Possession of Marijuana
21	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 11

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Boating
1	Angling Without License
3	No Hunters Orange
5	Not Abiding By Wma Rules And Regulations
1	Take Fox Illegally

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION		
6—Deer	10—Rifles	1—Marijuana Pipe
	2—Shotguns	1—Bag of Marijuana
	3—Pistols	
	7—Q-Beams	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
10	Boating
5	Commercial Fishing
1	Federal Migratory
21	Littering
4	Miscellaneous
25	Recreational Fishing
103	State Hunting/Trapping

11	Written Warnings
-----------	-------------------------

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 7

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
7	Public Assistance 6—Assist Motorists/1—Personal Assist

REGION 8: NEW ORLEANS

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

TOTAL CASES	57
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
9	Boating
8	Angling W/O A License
2	Angling W/O Saltwater License
5	Take/Possess O/L Red Drum (On Water)
1	Poss. O/L of Red Drum In Excess of 27"(Recreational)
7	Take or Poss. Undersized Red Drum (Recreational) 16" Minimum
1	Take or Poss. Undersized Spotted Sea Trout(Recreational)
1	Take/Possess O/L Spotted Sea Trout(On Water)
1	Take or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Comm. License
1	Take Commercial fish W/O Comm. Gear License
1	Take or Poss. Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License
2	Fail To Comply W/Game Fish Shipping Regulations
3	Failure to Abide By Commission Rules
2	Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season
1	Illegal Poss. Of Alligators, Eggs or Their Skins
2	Hunting Ducks W/O Federal Stamp

2	Hunting MGB Illegal Hours
3	Take/Possess Over Limit of Ducks (Field Possession)
2	Hunt MGB Without State Migratory License
1	Hunt MGB Without State Hunting License
2	Take CML Mullet Closed Season or Illegal Hours

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 14

TOTAL 14	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating
3	Angling W/O A License
1	Angling W/O A Saltwater License
1	Take Or Possess Undersized Spotted Sea Trout(Recreational)
4	Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum (Recreational) Commission Action
2	Take/Possess O/L Spotted Sea Trout(On Water)

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
Destroyed.....1 Alligator; Donated.....Fish Fillets(3).....Ducks(23).....Spotted Sea Trout(47).....Alligator Meat(15 Lbs.).....Red Drum(69).....Black Drum(1) Sheep Head(1).....Coots(2).....Flounder(1); <u>Sold@Bid.....53 Lbs. Of Shrimp Sold For \$76.85</u> ; Hardware Confiscated.....Purchase Invoice(1).....Flatboat(1).....Ice Chest (3).....Rifle and Scope(1).....Purchase Receipts(2)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
9	Boating
23	Commercial Fishing
10	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
2	Miscellaneous
10	Recreational Fishing
3	State Hunting/Trapping
14	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Public Assistance

REGION 9: SCHRIEVER

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

TOTAL CASES	181
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
30	Boating
39	Angling Without A Basic License
3	Angling Without A Non-Resident Basic License
12	Angling Without A Saltwater License
2	Angling Without A Non-Resident Saltwater License
2	Take Over Limit Of Red Drum On Water
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations Of WMA By Camping In Area Other Than Campground
8	Hunting On WMA Without A Permit
2	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations Of WMA By Using Larger Than 25 HP Engine
2	Contributing To Delinquency Of A Minor
2	Littering
1	Resisting An Officer
6	Take Undersized Red Drum
3	Take Undersized Recreational Spotted Sea Trout
7	Take Undersized Recreational Black Drum
1	Take Over Limit Recreational Black Drum

2	Not Abiding By Commission Rules and Regulations By Taking Undersized Catfish
1	Commission Rules And Regulations Taking Over Limit Of Commercial Red Snapper
11	Hunting Without Resident License
1	Hunting Without Non-Resident License
1	Failure To Abide By Commission Rules And Regulations On Transporting Live Deer Across State Lines
1	Hunting With Unplugged Gun
1	Hunt Quadrupeds During Illegal Hours
1	Hunt MGB Without State Stamp
1	Use Firearm With Illegal Sights
1	Take Rabbits Illegal Methods
2	Hunt Raccoons Illegally
1	Possession Of Live Non-Game Quadrupeds W/O Permit
5	Hunting Ducks Without Federal Stamp
2	Hunting MBG With Unplugged Gun
1	Hunting MGB Illegal Hours
5	Hunting MGB Over Baited Area
9	Hunting MGB From Moving Motorboat
1	Rallying MGB
1	Transport Illegally Taken MGB

1	Possess Over Limit Of Coots (Field Possession)
1	Hunting Ducks Closed Season
6	Possess Over Limit Of Ducks (Field Possession)
2	Take Ibis (No Season)
1	Take Grebe (No Season)
1	Hunt MGB Without State Stamp

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 32

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
11	Boating
13	Angling Without A License
4	Angling Without A Saltwater License
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
1	Take Undersized Recreational Red Drum
2	Take Over Limit Recreational Black Drum

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
17 Speckled Trout; 10 Sheep Head; 73 Catfish; 1 Raccoon; 55 Doves; 1 Red Head Duck; 1 Black Duck; 4 Teal; 3 Wood Ducks; 37 Coots; 11 Gallinules; 3 Gadwalls; 4 Scaup; 12 Pintail Ducks; 2 Ibis; 1 Grebe; 1 Mallard; 1 Canvasback; 91 Lbs. Red Snapper; 17 Red Drum; 29 Black Drum; 1 Rod And Reel; 1 Skiff; 1 Ice Chest; 1 Light

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9:

TOTAL 213	DESCRIPTION
30	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing
42	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
3	Miscellaneous
79	Recreational Fishing
24	State Hunting/Trapping
32	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 6

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Public Assistance

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	52
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
25	Unlawfully Take Oysters From Un-leased State Water Bottoms
11	Unlawfully Take Oysters From A Private Lease
4	Failure To Have Written Permission
2	Take Oysters Closed Season
2	Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
5	Violate Sanitary Code (Logbook)
1	Removing Contents From Crab Traps
1	Use crab traps without required markings
1	Angling Without A Basic License

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Angling Without A Basic License

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
281 Sacks Of Oysters

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR OSF:

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

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

STATEWIDE

TOTAL CASES	12
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	031.1- Commission Rules And Regulations (Over Limit Red Snapper)
1	036.2- Buy/Sell Fish Without A Retail Seafood License
2	037- Fail To Maintain Records
3	056- Purchase /Sell Game Fish
1	057- Buy Commercial Fish From Unlicensed Fisherman
1	240- Hunting From A Moving Vehicle
1	308- Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
1	310- Hunt Deer From Public Road
1	768.0- Take Over The Limit King Mackerel (Federal)

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	031.1- Commission Rules And Regulation(Over The Limit Red Snapper)

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
3,336 Pounds King Mackerel (Sold For \$4,170) 91 Pounds Red Snapper (Donated) 2- Purchase Receipts (Held As Evidence At BRHQ) 1- Rifle (Held As Evidence At BRHQ) 1- Shotgun (Held As Evidence At BRHQ) 3- Pistols (Held As Evidence At BRHQ)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SIU:

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

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 0

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

TOTAL CASES: 1,110

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 180

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 60

MONTHLY BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT

November 2005

	<u>November</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Number of Boating Accidents Reported:	6	135
Number of Injuries:	6	79
Number of Fatalities:	1	33

11/05/05 St. Martin Parish
Two vessel collision in Bayou Boutte in the Atchafalaya Basin resulting in property damage only.

11/13/05 Lafourche Parish
Vessel discovered afloat with no one aboard in Bayou Des Allemands. Evidence suggests the boat struck an underwater object and ejected the operator. Operator's body was found nearby. Pending investigation.

11/25/05 Vermilion Parish
Operator stated he was blinded by a tugboat spotlight and drove his vessel into the trees along Schooner Bayou. Minor injuries and property damaged reported.

11/26/05 St. Tammany Parish
Vessel traveling in the West Pearl River struck a submerged object, which caused the outboard motor to flip into the vessel. Propeller struck the operator causing severe injuries to the victim's right arm and shoulder.

11/26/05 St. Tammany Parish
Two vessel collision in Bayou Castine resulting in minor property damage.

11/27/05 St. Mary Parish
Small flat boat capsized in Franklin Canal when one of the occupants shifted his weight to one side. Minor injuries were reported.

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
November 2005

185 – Amph. – 61092
Hrs. - 28.3

185 – Amph. – 1322R
Hrs. - 35.6

210 – 9467Y
Hrs. - 36

Enforcement Hours - 29.2

Wildlife Hours- 34.5

Marine Fish Hours- 4.4

Inland Fish Hours- 3.4

Fur & Refuge Hours- 28.4

Office of the Secretary 0

Other State Departments 0

Total Plane Use - 99.9

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

December 8, 2005

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, December 8, 2005.

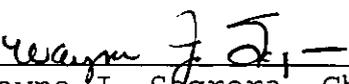
WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish a hunting season in 2006 for wild turkeys, and

WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of wild turkeys and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting hunting of wild turkeys are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.



Wayne J. Segrera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby 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: (December 2005).

§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 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 and Physically Challenged Hunter (Wheelchair)	March 18 - 19

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. Caddo;

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

- iv. DeSoto;
- v. Jackson;
- vi. Lincoln;
- vii. Red River;
- viii. Union;

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;

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

iv. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

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;

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: (December 2005).

§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, Thistlethwaite, 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
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
Thistlethwaite	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: (December 2005).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Chairman

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

December 8, 2005

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, December 8, 2005.

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish a hunting season in 2006 for wild turkeys, and

WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of wild turkeys and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting hunting of wild turkeys are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby 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: (December 2005).

§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 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 and Physically Challenged Hunter (Wheelchair)	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. Caddo;

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

- iv. DeSoto;
- v. Jackson;
- vi. Lincoln;
- vii. Red River;
- viii. Union;

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;

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

iv. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

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;

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: (December 2005).

§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, Thistlethwaite, 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
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
Thistlethwaite	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: (December 2005).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Chairman

Final Results

Six Point Experimental Antler Program



Louisiana Department Wildlife & Fisheries
Wildlife Division
August, 2005

Final Results of the Six Point Experimental Antler Program
In the Tri-Parish Area of Louisiana, 2002-2004

Introduction

An experimental deer hunting season using antler criteria to regulate the antlered buck harvest was established by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in the parishes of Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and West Baton Rouge. The experiment was set to run for three seasons, 2002/03, 2003/04 and 2004/05. The antler regulations, established for this experiment, were based upon the philosophy of Brothers & Ray (Producing Quality Whitetails, 1975). This idea involves harvesting from the smallest antlered bucks and from the largest antlered bucks, allowing the bucks with average antlers to move up into the older age classes. Their concept involves protecting several age classes of bucks, yearlings and the young adults (two and three year olds).

The plan in this experiment involved harvesting small antlered bucks, those with spike antlers less than three inches, and larger antlered bucks, those with six or more antlered points. This experiment design protected a portion of the more desirable yearling (1 ½ year old) age class of bucks. Louisiana DMAP harvest data shows that in the yearling age group, bucks with spikes less than three inches, have the lowest body weights. Yearling bucks with spikes larger than three inches and those with branched antlers have larger body weights and the most potential to develop into a quality animal on native habitat. This plan did not protect the best yearling bucks, those with six or more points. DMAP harvest data from this area indicated that most adult bucks, two years or older have six or more points. Hunters in Louisiana have indicated that a quality buck is one with six or more points and they will harvest it. This experiment also protected the low quality adult bucks, those with less than six points. Harvest data from Sherburne WMA indicated that about half of the two-year old bucks do not have six points.

Objectives of the experiment were:

- Reduce the harvest of yearling bucks.
- Increase the adult buck harvest, especially in the two-year age and three-year old buck age classes.

Some decline in the adult buck harvest was expected for the first year of the experiment. The harvest of three year old bucks was expected to be higher in 2004 than the 2001 harvest of three year old bucks. No overall increase in the physical quality of the adult bucks harvested was anticipated during the three years. Deer management involves the proper management of both herd and habitat. This experiment only addressed the harvest of antlered bucks and did not address other issues such as achieving a balanced harvest of bucks and does or proper management of habitat conditions for deer.

This experiment was set by the Commission to run for three years, 2002-2004. The idea of running the experiment for five years was discussed. The main focus of the harvest targeted the adult bucks, primarily the two and three year old age classes. The three year experiment provided data from two harvest years of two year old bucks (2003-2004) and one year of three year old bucks (2004).

Results

- 1) Harvest of yearling bucks – The yearling buck harvest was reduced as expected during the experiment (Table I). The annual yearling buck harvest averaged 452 bucks prior to the experiment (3 years of data) and averaged 215 bucks during the experiment. There was concern that the yearling bucks would be “high-graded”, but the harvest of yearling bucks with branched antlers was low during the three years so this did not appear to be a problem.
- 2) Harvest of two year old bucks – The harvest of two year old bucks was also much reduced during the experiment (Table I). Examination of Cohort Groups prior to and during the experiment indicates this low harvest (Table II).

In spite of the high harvest of 1 ½ year old bucks in 1999 and 2000, more two year bucks were killed in 2000 and 2001, prior to the experiment. The lower harvest of two year old bucks in 2003 and 2004 was probably due to the fact that many two year old bucks did not have six points and could not be legally harvested during the experimental years (this was documented on Sherburne WMA).

- 3) Harvest of three year old bucks – Many hunters have stated that the low harvest of two year old bucks during the experimental years was due to the fact that hunters were passing them up along with yearling bucks. If that was the case, the harvest of three year old bucks during the experimental years would be high. The average harvest of three year old bucks during the experiment was close to the harvest prior to the experiment (Table I). Cohort examination of the harvest, gives a more detailed picture of deer movement into the older age classes prior to and during the experiment (Table II).

Despite a very high harvest of yearling and two year old bucks, more three year olds were harvested prior to the experiment than during the experiment. Again, this is probably related to the fact that some three year old bucks did not produce six points and could not be harvested.

- 4) Harvest of Mature Bucks (4 ½+) – The average number of mature bucks harvested during the experiment was higher than the number of mature bucks harvested prior to the experiment (Table I). There have been six bucks killed during the three year experiment that have been officially scored and qualify for recognition in the LA Big Game Records Program. The highest scoring buck to date was a 151 1/8 Typical killed in West Baton Rouge Parish in January during the 04-05 season. Two bucks harvested in 2001, prior to the experiment, qualified for the record program. The physical data for harvested bucks probably explains why there are not many Louisiana record bucks taken in the experimental area (Tables III, IV & V).
- 5) Physical condition of harvested deer – Examination of Table III, Table IV, and Table V shows that there was no change in the overall physical characteristics of adult bucks harvested. Body weights and antler development have remained constant in all three parishes. Growth and development of bucks in Iberville Parish was much less than in Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge. Herd densities and habitat conditions

will have an impact on body growth and antler development and probably explains the mediocre antler conditions, such as beam length and inside spread.

- 6) Doe harvest – There was some concern that the experiment might reduce the harvest of antlerless deer in the three parishes. The overall doe harvest during the experimental years was good (Figure 2), although not as high as the three years prior to the experiment.

Summary

Several factors may have had an influence on the experiment. Low fawn productivity was documented around the state in 2001. An outbreak of EHD (Bluetongue disease) in 2002 in this area of the Basin resulted in deer mortality and could have further reduced buck numbers available for harvest. The poor growth and development trends in Iberville Parish no doubt influenced the experiment, since bucks with less than six points could not legally be harvested. Because of the external factors, a longer study period would have been desirable.

The average antlered buck harvest was greater during the three years prior to the experiment (Table I and Figure 1). Point Coupee Parish was the only parish to have an increase in the number of adult bucks killed per thousand acres. This parish increased from 3 adult bucks per thousand acres to 4 adult bucks per thousand acres. Both Iberville and West Baton Rouge Parishes declined in their adult buck kill per thousand acres.

Most clubs typically target two and three year old bucks in their harvest program and this reduced harvest must be taken into account when considering future antler restriction programs in this area. The increase of mature adults (4 ½ and older) harvested during the experimental years was desirable. This increased harvest does not necessarily mean there were more bucks available for harvest in these age classes as a result of antler restrictions during the experimental years. In fact, these mature bucks that were harvested during the experimental years were born prior to 2002, the first year of the experiment. Hunters probably had to hunt harder and longer in order to harvest a legal buck. In the future, hunters will have to weigh this gain with the overall reduction in buck harvest and determine if it is worth the sacrifice to achieve this.

The experiment created much controversy in the deer hunting community in the three parishes. Some hunters have expressed their desire to continue with the mandated antler restrictions while others have stated it was ruining their deer herd. Prior to the experiment many clubs and landowners were already utilizing antler restrictions with their management program. Clubs and landowners can voluntarily continue with harvest programs that utilize antler restrictions to limit the harvest of yearling bucks.

Overall the success of this experiment was limited. The mandatory antler restrictions did reduce the yearling buck harvest in the three parishes. This reduction did not result in any harvest increase in the two and three year old age groups. There was an increased harvest of mature adult bucks, 4 ½ years and older. Previous antler restriction studies indicate that antler restrictions work best on good habitat that is being properly managed and in combination with herd harvest programs that keeps the herd in balance with the habitat. This study did not address antlerless deer harvests or habitat management work in these three parishes and, based upon

these past studies, probably influenced the success this study. A statewide antler restriction program would also have limited success based upon the findings of this study.

The study supports the idea that a reduction in the buck limit would be a better approach for deer management in Louisiana rather than implementing statewide antler restrictions. Other management factors, such as soil quality, forest type, and overall herd conditions, must be taken into account. Antler restriction programs are just one part of the deer management equation. The Department is addressing total deer management through technical assistance to landowners and hunting clubs involved with DMAP and LADT. Reducing the antlered buck limit is being addressed by the proposed tagging program.

Table I
 Tri-Parish Six Point Experiment
 Total Antlered Buck Harvest

<u>Year</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>AVG.</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>AVG.</u>
<u>Age</u>								
1 ½	468	509	378	<u>452</u>	156	206	282	<u>215</u>
2 ½	342	400	524	<u>422</u>	256	300	342	<u>299</u>
3 ½	259	435	473	<u>389</u>	357	404	394	<u>385</u>
4 ½+	54	115	120	<u>96</u>	165	155	203	<u>174</u>
Totals	1,123	1,439	1,495	<u>1,352</u>	934	1,065	1,221	<u>1,073</u>
Total Adult Bucks	655	950	1,157	<u>921</u>	778	859	939	<u>859</u>

Table II
Tri-Parish Six Point Experiment
Male Cohorts

<u>Cohort Birth Year</u>	<u>Harvest by Year and Age Class</u>			
	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
1998	1 ½-468	2 ½-400	3 ½-473	4 ½+-165
	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
1999	1 ½-509	2 ½-524	3 ½-357	4 ½+-155
	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
2000	1 ½-378	2 ½-256	3 ½-404	4 ½+-203
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
2001	1 ½-156	2 ½-300	3 ½-394	4 ½+-
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
2002	1 ½-206	2 ½-342	3 ½-	4 ½+-
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
2003	1 ½-282	2 ½-	3 ½-	4 ½+-
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
2004	1 ½-	2 ½-	3 ½-	4 ½+-

Table III
Tri-Parish Six Point Program
Adult Buck Data (2 ½ year olds)

Area	Year	Weight	# Points	Base	Beam Length	Spread
State	2003	148	6.5	3.3"	13.3"	11.2"
Iberville	1999	134	6.6	3.1"	11.9"	11.2"
	2000	139	6.6	3.2"	12.7"	10.3"
	2001	134	6.3	3.1"	12.0"	9.9"
	2002	134	7.2	3.2"	12.9"	12.0"
	2003	138	6.7	3.1"	12.3"	10.0"
	2004	137	6.7	3.1"	13.0"	10.3"
Pointe Coupee	1999	156	7.1	3.7"	13.4"	11.9"
	2000	159	7.2	3.6"	14.4"	12.5"
	2001	155	6.7	3.5"	13.5"	11.6"
	2002	149	7.4	3.6"	14.3"	11.0"
	2003	156	6.9	3.3"	13.3"	11.0"
	2004	154	6.8	3.6"	13.3"	11.0"
WBR	1999	152	7.1	3.5"	13.0"	11.3"
	2000	151	7.4	3.6"	14.3"	12.0"
	2001	151	7.4	3.6"	13.5"	11.5"
	2002	149	7.5	3.5"	13.5"	12.0"
	2003	153	7.9	3.6"	14.0"	12.0"
	2004	153	7.2	3.6"	14.3"	12.0"

Table IV
Tri-Parish Six Point Program
Adult Buck Data (3 ½ year olds)

Area	Year	Weight	# Points	Base	Beam Length	Spread
State	2003	168	7.6	3.9"	16.1"	13.1"
Iberville	1999	146	7.4	3.5"	13.5"	11.2"
	2000	151	7.3	3.6"	13.9"	11.4"
	2001	146	7.0	3.4"	13.5"	10.7"
	2002	148	7.6	3.5"	14.2"	12"
	2003	156	7.4	3.6"	14.4"	11"
	2004	153	7.2	3.6"	14.4"	11.0"
Pointe Coupee	1999	173	7.7	4.0"	15.3"	13.1"
	2000	171	7.9	4.1"	16.3"	13.5"
	2001	175	7.9	4.1"	16.5"	13.4"
	2002	169	8.1	4.0"	16.2"	13.0"
	2003	174	7.8	4.0"	15.9"	13.0"
	2004	173	7.9	4.1"	16.3"	13.5"
WBR	1999	164	7.7	4.0"	15.1"	12.4"
	2000	171	8.2	4.0"	16.0"	13.6"
	2001	172	8.0	4.0"	16.2"	13.2"
	2002	170	7.9	3.9"	15.4"	13.0"
	2003	174	8.2	4.1"	16.8"	13.0"
	2004	169	7.4	3.8"	15.6"	12.0"

Table V
Tri-Parish Six Point Program
Adult Buck Data (4 ½ year olds)

Area	Year	Weight	# Points	Base	Beam Length	Spread
State	2003	183	8.1	4.3"	18.1"	14.8"
Iberville Parish	1999	156	8.5	3.8"	15.8"	13.1"
	2000	159	7.8	3.8"	15.5"	15.9"
	2001	160	7.5	3.9"	15.6"	13.0"
	2002	154	7.7	4.0"	15.9"	12.8"
	2003	159	7.4	3.8"	15.1"	12.6"
	2004	160	7.7	3.8"	15.9"	13.3"
	Pointe Coupee Parish	1999	183	8.3	4.2"	18.2"
2000		176	7.7	4.4"	16.8"	14.1"
2001		174	7.8	4.0"	16.5"	13.8"
2002		183	7.8	4.1"	17.1"	14.9"
2003		190	8.6	4.4"	17.7"	15.1"
2004		184	7.8	4.2"	17.6"	14.4"
WBR Parish		1999	177	8.0	4.3"	17.8"
	2000	182	8.5	4.3"	17.2"	14.5"
	2001	183	8.1	4.4"	17.3"	14.5"
	2002	180	8.2	4.4"	17.1"	14.0"
	2003	187	8.1	4.4"	18.1"	14.2"
	2004	173	7.6	4.1"	16.5"	13.7"

Figure 1

Total Antlered Buck Harvest

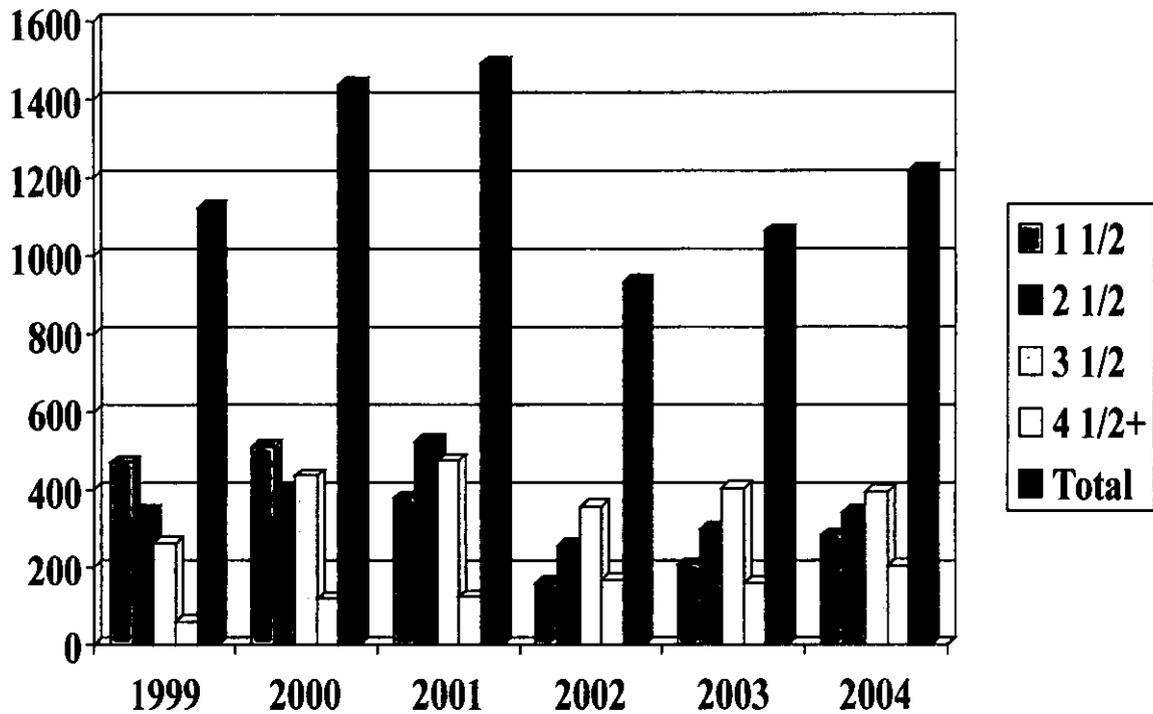
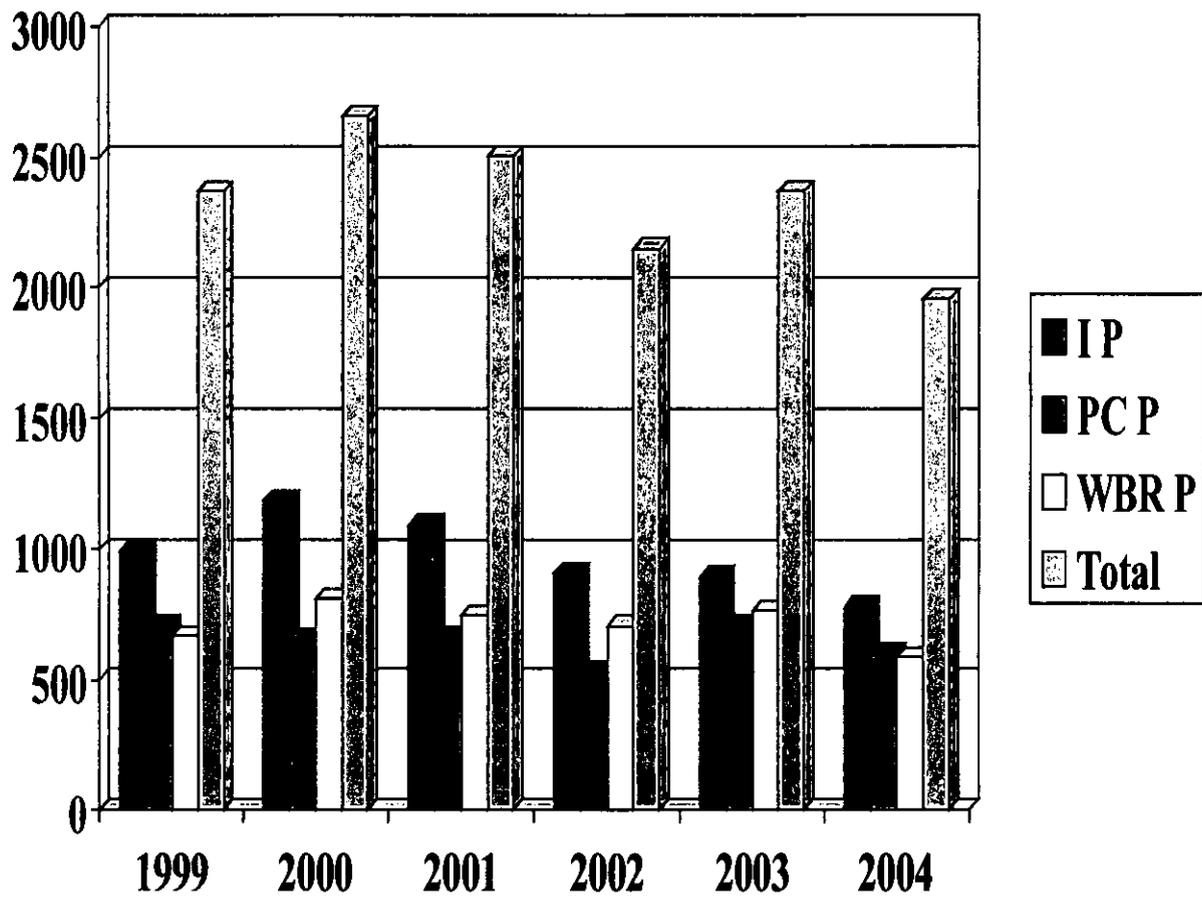


Figure 2

DMAP Female Harvest



RESOLUTION

Addition of Non-human Primates to the List
of Potentially Dangerous Quadrupeds

Adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

December 8, 2005

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:6(30) relative to non-human primates (primates), provides that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding the purchase and possession of primates; to provide issuance of certain permits; and to provide for related matters, and

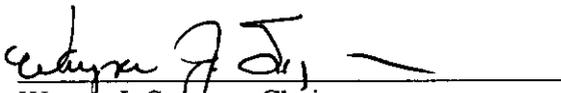
WHEREAS, the Commission finds that possession of certain potentially dangerous primates poses significant hazards to public safety and health, is detrimental to the welfare of the animals, and may have negative impacts on conservation and recovery of some threatened and endangered species, and

WHEREAS, the size and strength of such animals in concert with their natural and unpredictable and/or predatory nature can result in severe injury or death when an attack upon a human occurs. Often such attacks are unprovoked and a person other than the owner, often a child, is the victim. Furthermore, there is no approved rabies vaccine for such animals, so even minor scratches and injuries inflicted upon humans or other animals could be deadly, and

WHEREAS, responsible possession of these potentially dangerous primates necessitates that they be confined in secure facilities. Prolonged confinement is by its nature stressful to these animals and proper long-term care by experienced persons is essential to the health and welfare of these animals and to society, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby include non-human primates with potentially dangerous quadrupeds in the rules and regulations promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F, and does hereby adopt the attached notice of intent.

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


Wayne J. Sagera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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 regulations for possession of potentially dangerous quadrupeds by adding non-human primates.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds

§115. Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates

A. This Commission finds that possession of certain potentially dangerous quadrupeds and non-human primates poses significant hazards to public safety and health, is detrimental to the welfare of the animals, and may have negative impacts on conservation and recovery of some threatened and endangered species.

1. The size and strength of such animals in concert with their natural and unpredictable and/or predatory nature can result in severe injury or death when an attack upon a human occurs. Often such attacks are unprovoked and a person other than the owner, often a child, is the victim. Furthermore, there is no approved rabies vaccine for such animals, so even minor scratches and injuries inflicted upon humans or other animals could be

deadly.

2. Responsible possession of these potentially dangerous wild quadrupeds and non-human primates necessitates that they be confined in secure facilities. Prolonged confinement is by its nature stressful to these animals and proper long-term care by experienced persons is essential to the health and welfare of these animals and to society.

3. Certain of these animals are listed as endangered species and others are so similar in appearance to endangered subspecies as to make practical distinction difficult. This similarity of appearance may provide a means to market illegally obtained endangered animals and can limit the effective enforcement of endangered species laws.

B. This Commission regulation prohibits importation and private possession of certain wild quadrupeds and non-human primates as follows.

C. 1. Except as provided herein, it shall be unlawful to import into, possess, purchase or sell ~~No person shall possess~~ within the State of Louisiana, by any means whatsoever including but not limited to transactions conducted via the internet, any of the following species or its subspecies of live wild quadrupeds or non-human primates, domesticated or otherwise (hereinafter "listed animals"):

- a. Cougar or mountain lion (Felis concolor)
- b. Black bear (Ursus americanus)

- c. Grizzly bear (Ursus arctos)
- d. Polar bear (Ursus maritimus)
- e. Red wolf (Canis rufus)
- f. Gray wolf (Canis lupus)
- g. Wolf dog hybrid (Canis lupus or Canis rufus x Canis familiaris)
- h. All non-human primates

~~D.~~ 2. Valid game breeder license holders for these species listed a-f above legally possessed prior to October 1, 1988, will be "grandfathered" and renewed annually until existing captive animals expire, or are legally transferred out of state, or are transferred to a suitable ~~public~~ facility. No additional listed animals may be acquired.

3. The prohibition against wolf-dog hybrids ~~will~~ expired January 1, 1997. Persons are cautioned that local ordinances or other state regulations may prohibit possession of these animals. ~~After January 1, 1997 an~~ Any animal which appears indistinguishable from a wolf, or is in any way represented to be a wolf ~~may~~ shall be considered to be a wolf in the absence of bona fide documentation to the contrary.

4. The following organizations and entities shall be exempt from this regulation, including permitting:

a. Zoos accredited or certified by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA);

b. Research facilities as defined in the Animal

Welfare Act as found in the United States Code Title 7, Chapter 54, §2132(e), including but not limited to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Primate Center, the Tulane National Primate Research Center, and Chimp Haven, Inc. located in Shreveport, LA; and

c. Any person transporting any listed animal through the State if the transit time is not more than 24 hours and the animal is at all times maintained within a confinement sufficient to prevent escape and contact with the public.

5. The following organizations and entities may be exempted from this regulation after applying for and receiving a permit from the Department to possess any listed animal under the following conditions:

a. Other zoos and educational institutions not covered under Subparagraph 4.c. above. The Secretary shall determine whether to issue a permit and any conditions for the permit on a case by case basis.

b. Animal Sanctuaries accredited or certified by AZA. Permitted Sanctuaries are prohibited from breeding or selling any listed animal. The animals must be housed in such a manner as to prevent public contact. Permitted sanctuaries are prohibited from transporting these animals to any public building or place where they may come into contact with the public including, but not limited to schools, hospitals or malls is prohibited.

6. As provided below, the following individuals may be exempted from this regulation after applying for and receiving a

permit from the Department to possess a non-human primate. The permit will be for one year and must be renewed annually under the following conditions:

a. A physically challenged individual who has exclusive possession of no more than one monkey that is working to aid and assist said individual with his/her disability and where the monkey has been obtained through and trained by a licensed and accredited non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of lives for physically challenged.

b. An individual who legally possesses one or more non-human primates prior to the effective date of this regulation and who can prove legal ownership is authorized to keep those non-human primates but is prohibited from acquiring any additional non-human primates by any means whatsoever, including breeding.

c. The individuals listed in this subsection must annually apply for and receive a permit from the Department. The permit application shall include:

i. The name, address, telephone number, and date of birth of applicant.

ii. A description of each non-human primate applicant possesses, including the scientific name, sex, age, color, weight, and any distinguishing marks.

iii. A photograph of each non-human primate and its permanent enclosure.

iv. The physical location where the non-human

primate is to be kept.

v. Proof of legal ownership. (Proof of legal ownership includes original purchase documents, veterinary records, or other documentation, acceptable to the Department demonstrating ownership.)

vi. The microchip or tattoo number of each non-human primate.

vii. A health certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian within one year prior to the date of the application stating that the animal is free of all symptoms of contagious and/or infectious diseases at the time of the examination and that all appropriate tests and preventative measures have been performed as deemed necessary by the veterinarian.

d. Permit holders must house their non-human primates in such a manner as to prevent public contact and are prohibited from transporting their non-human primate to any public building or place where the public may come into contact with the non-human primate, including, but not limited to schools, hospitals or malls.

e. Permit holders must have their non-human primates examined annually by a licensed veterinarian to insure that the animal is free of all symptoms of contagious and/or infectious diseases at the time of examination and all appropriate tests and preventative measures have been performed as deemed necessary by the veterinarian.

f. Permit holders are required to report any escapes to the Department within 24 hours of discovery of the escape.

g. Permit holders are required to submit any changes to the permit information provided in the permit application within 30 days of the date those changes take effect or the permit will be considered invalid.

~~DE. Qualified educational institutions, zoos, and scientific organizations may be exempted from this prohibition on a case by case basis upon written application to the Secretary.~~ Minimum pen requirements for exempted educational institutions, zoos and scientific organizations are as follows:

1. Bears

a. single animal: 25 feet long x 12 feet wide x 10 feet high, covered roof;

b. pair: 30 feet long x 15 feet wide x 10 feet high, covered roof;

c. materials: chain link 9 gauge minimum;

d. safety perimeter rail;

e. pool: 6 feet x 4 feet x 18 inches deep with facilities for spraying or wetting bear(s);

2. Wolf

a. 15 feet long x 8 feet wide x 6 feet high per animal, covered roof;

b. secluded den area: 4 feet x 4 feet for each

animal;

c. materials: chain link wire or equivalent;

d. safety perimeter rail;

3. Cougar, Mountain lion

a. single animal: 10 feet long x 8 feet wide x 8 feet high, covered roof;

b. pair: 15 feet long x 8 feet wide x 8 feet high, covered roof;

c. materials: chain link 9 gauge minimum;

d. safety perimeter rail;

e. claw log;

f. shelf: 24 inch wide x 8 feet long, 40 inches off floor.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:1356 (December 1995), LR 32: .

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

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Philip E. Bowman, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Fur & Refuge Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, February 2, 2006.

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).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Chairman

RESOLUTION

Addition of Non-human Primates to the List of Potentially Dangerous Quadrupeds

Adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

December 8, 2005

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:6(30) relative to non-human primates (primates), provides that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding the purchase and possession of primates; to provide issuance of certain permits; and to provide for related matters, and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that possession of certain potentially dangerous primates poses significant hazards to public safety and health, is detrimental to the welfare of the animals, and may have negative impacts on conservation and recovery of some threatened and endangered species, and

WHEREAS, the size and strength of such animals in concert with their natural and unpredictable and/or predatory nature can result in severe injury or death when an attack upon a human occurs. Often such attacks are unprovoked and a person other than the owner, often a child, is the victim. Furthermore, there is no approved rabies vaccine for such animals, so even minor scratches and injuries inflicted upon humans or other animals could be deadly, and

WHEREAS, responsible possession of these potentially dangerous primates necessitates that they be confined in secure facilities. Prolonged confinement is by its nature stressful to these animals and proper long-term care by experienced persons is essential to the health and welfare of these animals and to society, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby include non-human primates with potentially dangerous quadrupeds in the rules and regulations promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F, and does hereby adopt the attached notice of intent.

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

Wayne J. Sagrera, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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 regulations for possession of potentially dangerous quadrupeds by adding non-human primates.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds

§115. Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates

A. This Commission finds that possession of certain potentially dangerous quadrupeds and non-human primates poses significant hazards to public safety and health, is detrimental to the welfare of the animals, and may have negative impacts on conservation and recovery of some threatened and endangered species.

1. The size and strength of such animals in concert with their natural and unpredictable and/or predatory nature can result in severe injury or death when an attack upon a human occurs. Often such attacks are unprovoked and a person other than the owner, often a child, is the victim. Furthermore, there is no approved rabies vaccine for such animals, so even minor scratches and injuries inflicted upon humans or other animals could be

deadly.

2. Responsible possession of these potentially dangerous wild quadrupeds and non-human primates necessitates that they be confined in secure facilities. Prolonged confinement is by its nature stressful to these animals and proper long-term care by experienced persons is essential to the health and welfare of these animals and to society.

3. Certain of these animals are listed as endangered species and others are so similar in appearance to endangered subspecies as to make practical distinction difficult. This similarity of appearance may provide a means to market illegally obtained endangered animals and can limit the effective enforcement of endangered species laws.

B. This Commission regulation prohibits importation and private possession of certain wild quadrupeds and non-human primates as follows.

C. 1. Except as provided herein, it shall be unlawful to import into, possess, purchase or sell ~~No person shall possess~~ within the State of Louisiana, by any means whatsoever including but not limited to transactions conducted via the internet, any of the following species or its subspecies of live wild quadrupeds or non-human primates, domesticated or otherwise (hereinafter "listed animals"):

- a. Cougar or mountain lion (Felis concolor)
- b. Black bear (Ursus americanus)

- c. Grizzly bear (Ursus arctos)
- d. Polar bear (Ursus maritimus)
- e. Red wolf (Canis rufus)
- f. Gray wolf (Canis lupus)
- g. Wolf dog hybrid (Canis lupus or Canis rufus x Canis familiaris)
- h. All non-human primates

~~D.~~ 2. Valid game breeder license holders for these species listed a-f above legally possessed prior to October 1, 1988, will be "grandfathered" and renewed annually until existing captive animals expire, or are legally transferred out of state, or are transferred to a suitable ~~public~~ facility. No additional listed animals may be acquired.

3. The prohibition against wolf-dog hybrids ~~will~~ expired January 1, 1997. Persons are cautioned that local ordinances or other state regulations may prohibit possession of these animals. ~~After January 1, 1997 an~~ Any animal which appears indistinguishable from a wolf, or is in any way represented to be a wolf ~~may~~ shall be considered to be a wolf in the absence of bona fide documentation to the contrary.

4. The following organizations and entities shall be exempt from this regulation, including permitting:

a. Zoos accredited or certified by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA);

b. Research facilities as defined in the Animal

Welfare Act as found in the United States Code Title 7, Chapter 54, §2132(e), including but not limited to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Primate Center, the Tulane National Primate Research Center, and Chimp Haven, Inc. located in Shreveport, LA; and

c. Any person transporting any listed animal through the State if the transit time is not more than 24 hours and the animal is at all times maintained within a confinement sufficient to prevent escape and contact with the public.

5. The following organizations and entities may be exempted from this regulation after applying for and receiving a permit from the Department to possess any listed animal under the following conditions:

a. Other zoos and educational institutions not covered under Subparagraph 4.c. above. The Secretary shall determine whether to issue a permit and any conditions for the permit on a case by case basis.

b. Animal Sanctuaries accredited or certified by AZA. Permitted Sanctuaries are prohibited from breeding or selling any listed animal. The animals must be housed in such a manner as to prevent public contact. Permitted sanctuaries are prohibited from transporting these animals to any public building or place where they may come into contact with the public including, but not limited to schools, hospitals or malls is prohibited.

6. As provided below, the following individuals may be exempted from this regulation after applying for and receiving a

permit from the Department to possess a non-human primate. The permit will be for one year and must be renewed annually under the following conditions:

a. A physically challenged individual who has exclusive possession of no more than one monkey that is working to aid and assist said individual with his/her disability and where the monkey has been obtained through and trained by a licensed and accredited non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of lives for physically challenged.

b. An individual who legally possesses one or more non-human primates prior to the effective date of this regulation and who can prove legal ownership is authorized to keep those non-human primates but is prohibited from acquiring any additional non-human primates by any means whatsoever, including breeding.

c. The individuals listed in this subsection must annually apply for and receive a permit from the Department. The permit application shall include:

i. The name, address, telephone number, and date of birth of applicant.

ii. A description of each non-human primate applicant possesses, including the scientific name, sex, age, color, weight, and any distinguishing marks.

iii. A photograph of each non-human primate and its permanent enclosure.

iv. The physical location where the non-human

primate is to be kept.

v. Proof of legal ownership. (Proof of legal ownership includes original purchase documents, veterinary records, or other documentation, acceptable to the Department demonstrating ownership.)

vi. The microchip or tattoo number of each non-human primate.

vii. A health certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian within one year prior to the date of the application stating that the animal is free of all symptoms of contagious and/or infectious diseases at the time of the examination and that all appropriate tests and preventative measures have been performed as deemed necessary by the veterinarian.

d. Permit holders must house their non-human primates in such a manner as to prevent public contact and are prohibited from transporting their non-human primate to any public building or place where the public may come into contact with the non-human primate, including, but not limited to schools, hospitals or malls.

e. Permit holders must have their non-human primates examined annually by a licensed veterinarian to insure that the animal is free of all symptoms of contagious and/or infectious diseases at the time of examination and all appropriate tests and preventative measures have been performed as deemed necessary by the veterinarian.

f. Permit holders are required to report any escapes to the Department within 24 hours of discovery of the escape.

g. Permit holders are required to submit any changes to the permit information provided in the permit application within 30 days of the date those changes take effect or the permit will be considered invalid.

~~DE. Qualified educational institutions, zoos, and scientific organizations may be exempted from this prohibition on a case by case basis upon written application to the Secretary.~~ Minimum pen requirements for exempted educational institutions, zoos and scientific organizations are as follows:

1. Bears

a. single animal: 25 feet long x 12 feet wide x 10 feet high, covered roof;

b. pair: 30 feet long x 15 feet wide x 10 feet high, covered roof;

c. materials: chain link 9 gauge minimum;

d. safety perimeter rail;

e. pool: 6 feet x 4 feet x 18 inches deep with facilities for spraying or wetting bear(s);

2. Wolf

a. 15 feet long x 8 feet wide x 6 feet high per animal, covered roof;

b. secluded den area: 4 feet x 4 feet for each

animal;

c. materials: chain link wire or equivalent;

d. safety perimeter rail;

3. Cougar, Mountain lion

a. single animal: 10 feet long x 8 feet wide x 8 feet high, covered roof;

b. pair: 15 feet long x 8 feet wide x 8 feet high, covered roof;

c. materials: chain link 9 gauge minimum;

d. safety perimeter rail;

e. claw log;

f. shelf: 24 inch wide x 8 feet long, 40 inches off floor.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:171, and R.S. 56:1904F.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:1356 (December 1995), LR 32: .

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

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Philip E. Bowman, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Fur & Refuge Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, February 2, 2006.

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).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Chairman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2006</h1>						1
						2
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SCHEDULE FOR FINAL RULES TO BE PUBLISHED IN STATE REGISTER

DEC-05	RULE - 2006 Turkey Season
	RULE - Reef Fish - Harvest Regulations
FEB-06	RULE - Removal of Abandoned Crab Traps
APR-06	RULE - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

December 6, 2005

Mike Voisin
Chairman, Louisiana Oyster Task Force
P.O Box 3916
Houma, LA 70361

RE: Oyster Season Openings On Public Seed Grounds and Reservations

Dear Mr. Voisin:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning recommendations made by the Louisiana Oyster Task Force regarding the announced opening and closing dates on certain public oyster seed grounds and seed reservations.

Department biologists have documented unprecedented impacts to the oyster resources east of the Mississippi River following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Post-storm samples indicate heavy seed and sack oyster mortality and, in combination with an overall 48% decrease in pre-storm stock sizes from last year, current resource availability level does not appear capable of supporting extended harvest pressure. In consideration of these factors together with the occurrence of very successful post-storm spat-sets, the Department feels that initially restricting harvest within this area to a 12-day period (Dec 12-23) should provide the biological staff with the opportunity to evaluate both resource response to harvest stressors and the potential for additional harvest opportunities after December 23.

Likewise, significant oyster mortality are documented in the Hackberry Bay oyster seed reservation and the Barataria Bay, Deep Lake, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity and Lake Tambour public oyster seed grounds. With the exception of Hackberry Bay (Dec 12-23), the Department maintains that extending this opening beyond 3-days (Dec 12-14) within these areas at this time is not in the best interest of the resource. You may recall that the Department's original pre-storm recommendation for these areas, with the exception of Hackberry Bay was for a 3-day season and the Oyster Task Force supported this recommendation. Oyster stock availability in the Barataria Bay, Deep Lake, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity and Lake Tambour public oyster seed grounds is extremely limited and in the Barataria Bay, Lake Chien and Lake Felicity public seed grounds are very closely associated with the new cultch plants. Any extension beyond the 3-day opening on these cultch plants risks potential removal of much of the newly deposited cultch material jeopardizing sustainability before maturation.

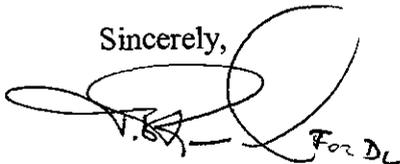
Mr. Mike Voisin
Page 2
December 6, 2005

Department staff shares real concern over re-opening the Sister Lake oyster seed reservation at this time. The cumulative effects of oyster mortality associated with Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, record harvest and fishing effort levels documented within this year's 13-day season and post harvest mortality have resulted in a 50% reduction of sack oyster stocks from pre-storm levels. We will continue to evaluate the potential for additional harvest opportunities from Sister Lake.

The Department recognizes industry concerns regarding loss of national market share, elevated salinity levels and the potential for additional resource losses resulting from predation and disease. We also remain sensitive to the needs of the Louisiana oyster industry and its recovery but must above all ensure the health and stability of the public oyster resource. The Department will do its utmost in closely monitoring the upcoming openings and utilize both fishery dependent and independent data in examining opportunities for potential re-openings in all or parts of these waters.

I would like to thank you and the Louisiana Oyster Task Force for their recommendations and your continued support of this agency. Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Landreneau", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

mjb

c: Wildlife & Fisheries Commissioners



December 1, 2005

Mr. Dwight Landreneau
Secretary
Louisiana Department of
Wildlife and Fisheries
P.O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, La. 70898-9000

RE: OPENING OYSTER SEASON IN SELECTED PUBLIC OYSTER AREAS

Dear Secretary Landreneau,

The Louisiana Oyster Task Force, (LOTF), met yesterday and discussed the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, (LDWF), announcement of the abbreviated oyster season that was ordered by you on November 18, 2005. There was a motion that was passed by the LOTF requesting changes be made to your current order concerning the opening and closings of the public oyster areas. The following reflects the specifics of the motion passed by the LOTF:

Beginning at one-half hour before sunrise on Monday, Dec. 12, 2005 and ending as further described below:

1. The public oyster seed grounds located east of the Mississippi River in both St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.
2. The Bay Gardene Public Oyster Seed Reservation in Plaquemines Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

3. The Lake Borgne Public Oyster Seed Grounds in St. Bernard Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

4. The Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation in both Jefferson and Lafourche Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005, except the 2004 cultch plants within the coordinates described below which shall close on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2005:

Hackberry Bay north cultch plant

1. 29 degrees 25 minutes 05.03 seconds N
90 degrees 01 minutes 57.01 seconds W
2. 29 degrees 25 minutes 00.39 seconds N
90 degrees 01 minutes 58.34 seconds W
3. 29 degrees 24 minutes 58.22 seconds N
90 degrees 01 minutes 48.45 seconds W
4. 29 degrees 25 minutes 02.86 seconds N
90 degrees 01 minutes 47.12 seconds W

Hackberry Bay south cultch plant

1. 29 degrees 23 minutes 20.15 seconds N
90 degrees 03 minutes 14.15 seconds W
2. 29 degrees 23 minutes 24.01 seconds N
90 degrees 03 minutes 05.55 seconds W
3. 29 degrees 23 minutes 12.77 seconds N
90 degrees 02 minutes 58.98 seconds W
4. 29 degrees 23 minutes 08.92 seconds N
90 degrees 03 minutes 07.58 seconds W

5. The Barataria Bay Public Oyster Seed Ground in Jefferson Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

6. The Deep Lake Public Oyster Seed Ground in Lafourche Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

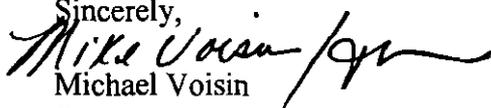
7. The Lake Chien, Lake Felicity, and Lake Tambour Public Oyster Seed Grounds in Terrebonne Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

8. The Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation in Terrebonne Parish shall close at the Secretary's discretion based on information gathered by LDWF oyster biologists concerning the state of the oyster fisheries in that area through Friday, Dec. 23, 2005.

During the discussions relating the above motion that passed Ron Dugas said that in his 30 years with the LDWF as the manager of the oyster division, the Department never closed the oyster season after any hurricane, including Hurricane Betsy. He and Dr. John Supan both stated their concerns that market and seed oysters are at a high risk of mortality due to dermo infestation related to high salinities, if the oysters are not sold or planted in a lower salinity oyster lease by oyster farmers. There was further discussion about how the oyster dealers on the west and east coasts are gaining a much larger share of the national oyster market because the absence of Louisiana's presence in the national market, and if Louisiana doesn't get their oysters back in the national market soon, history has shown that it's taken years to gain their market share back.

In closing, on behalf of the LOTF, I'd respectfully ask that you consider the recommendations made above by a large majority of the members as well as the experts present at our meeting.

Sincerely,



Michael Voisin

Chairman

Louisiana Oyster Task Force

Cc; John Roussell, Asst. Secretary
Karen Foote, Office of Seafood
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Members
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission



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

2005-347

11-30-2005

L.W.F.C. SETS DECEMBER AGENDA

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has set the next regular public board meeting for **9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8, 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 Nov. 3, 2005
3. Commission special announcements
4. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) presentation to Joel Courtney
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November
6. Rule ratification - 2006 Turkey season
7. Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental final results
8. Deer/Dog Task Force updates
9. Notice of Intent - Possession of potentially dangerous wild quadrupeds and non-human primates
10. Set April 2006 meeting date
11. Public comments
12. Adjournment

-30-

November 30, 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, December 8, 2005**, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2005
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Presentation to Joel Courtney
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November
6. Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season
7. Tri-Parish Six Point Experimental Final Results
8. Deer/Dog Task Force Updates
9. Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates
10. Set April 2006 Meeting Date
11. Public Comments
12. Adjournment



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

November 30, 2005

MEMORANDUM

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

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at **9:30 AM on Thursday, December 8, 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 November 3, 2005
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Natural Resources Conservation Service Presentation to Joel Courtney

WINTON VIDRINE

5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

6. Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season
7. Tri-Parish Six Point Experiment Final Results
8. Deer/Dog Task Force Updates
9. Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates

Page 2
Commission Meeting
November 30, 2005

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

(None)

10. Set April 2006 Meeting Date
11. 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

Approved by Mr Sagrera
11/29/2005

C O V E R



FAX

S H E E T

To: Wayne Sagrera
Fax #: 337-893-7703
Subject: Commission Agenda
Date: November 28, 2005
Pages: 3, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Please review attached agenda and then call me. Thanks.

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

MEMORANDUM

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

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at **9:30 AM on Thursday, December 8, 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 November 3, 2005
3. Commission Special Announcements
4. Natural Resources Conservation Service Presentation to Joel Courtney

WINTON VIDRINE

5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/November

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

6. Rule Ratification - 2006 Turkey Season
7. Tri-Parish Six Point Experiment Final Results
8. Deer/Dog Task Force Updates
9. Notice of Intent - Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds and Non-Human Primates

Page 2
Commission Meeting
, 2005

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

(None)

. Set April 2006 Meeting Date

. 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

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

Log for
LDWF
(225) 765-0948
Nov 28 2005 1:39PM

Last Transaction

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Identification</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Result</u>
Nov 28	1:38PM	Fax Sent	83378937703	0:46	3	OK

Falcon, Susan

From: Foote, Karen

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2005 2:42 PM

To: Roussel, John E

Cc: Falcon, Susan; Porch, Pat

Subject: No Marine Fisheries agenda items for Dec. 8 meeting at this point



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

November 1, 2005

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - **December 8, 2005**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Thursday, November 17th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, December 8th** 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 December 8th. 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

*Susan:
Dwight Rich has no
items for the Dec. 8 Commission
Meeting Agenda.
Bennie*

C. John Russell



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

November 1, 2005

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary *DL*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - December 8, 2005

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Thursday, November 17th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, December 8th** 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 December 8th. 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
Wynette Kees
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

*SUSAN,
Nothing for the agenda.
Thanks,
EK*

KING TRUCKING, INC.

P O Drawer 1100
Amelia, LA 70340

Tel: 985-831-0525
Fax: 985-831-3330

Fax Cover Sheet

To: Ms. Susan Falcon

From: *Julie Theriot*

Fax: (225) 765-0948

Pages: 2, Including Cover

Phone: (225) 765-2806

Date: 11/17/2005

Re: Agenda

CC:

Urgent

For Review

Please Reply

Please Recycle

• **Comments:**



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

November 1, 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 - **December 8, 2005**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Thursday, November 17th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, December 8th** 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 December 8th. 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) Tri-Parish Six Point Experiment Final Results
- 2) Turkey Season 2006 Date & Regulations
- 3) Deer/Dog Task Force Update



Falcon, Susan

From: Guedry, Mary
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2005 9:43 AM
To: Falcon, Susan

Susan

Janice doesn't have anything for December 8 Commission Meeting Agenda.

Mary Guedry
Office of Management and Finance



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

November 1, 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 - **December 8, 2005**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Thursday, November 17th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, December 8th** 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 December 8th. 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 ✓

*Nothing for Public Information
Mae Ronly*

Falcon, Susan

From: Gohmert, Donald - Alexandria, LA [don.gohmert@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2005 7:40 AM
To: Falcon, Susan
Subject: RE: December Commission Meeting

I will attend the December 8 LWF commission meeting. Thanks.

Donald W. Gohmert
State Conservationist
NRCS-Louisiana
(318) 473-7751

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

From: Falcon, Susan [mailto:sfalcon@wlf.louisiana.gov]
Sent: Thu 11/3/2005 2:39 PM
To: Gohmert, Donald - Alexandria, LA
Cc: Landreneau, Dwight
Subject: December Commission Meeting

Secretary Landreneau asked that I notify you that our December 2005 Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Meeting will be held on December 8 beginning at 9:30 AM in our Baton Rouge Headquarters Office Building. Please let me know if you are available to attend and will make a presentation to Joel Courtney.

Thanks,
Susan Falcon
Commission Secretary



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

November 1, 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 - **December 8, 2005**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Thursday, November 17th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, December 8th** 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 December 8th. 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

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/18/05 Agenda Item Number: Public Comment

Topic: Oyster Season opening problem

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: George BARISICH
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: United Commercial Fishermen

Address: ASSOZ

Telephone: _____

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/8/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: Oyster season



I would like to speak.



I do not wish to speak.



I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.



I am AGAINST the proposal.



Other (Explain): _____

Name: John Tesvich
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: Oyster men

Address: 30300 Hwy 23
Buras LA 70041

Telephone: 504-912-2750

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/8/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: OYSTER SEASON OPENING

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: Dennis Pixton
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: SELF

Address: 141 Glenhill Dr.
Houma LA 70363

Telephone: 985 876 9775

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/08/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: 11 Public Comment

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: Robert Campo
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/8/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: OYSTER SEASON

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: Brad Robin

(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: _____

Address: ~~702~~ 2324 Florissant

Mo

Telephone: 504-296-8912

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/8/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: OYSTER SEASON

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: JAKOV JURISIC
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: MYSELF

Address: 116 AVE A.
BURAS LA 70041

Telephone: 504 432-9760

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/8/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: OYSTER SEASON

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: MITCHELL JURISICH
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: MYSELF

Address: P.O. Box 82

EMPIRE, LA 70050

Telephone: 504-382-7061

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
COMMENT CARD

Meeting Date: 12/8/05 Agenda Item Number: 11

Topic: Extended shrimp season inshore

I would like to speak.

I do not wish to speak.

I am IN FAVOR of the proposal.

I am AGAINST the proposal.

Other (Explain): _____

Name: GEORGE BAPISICH
(PLEASE PRINT)

Representing: United Commercial Fishermen

Address: Assoc. 940 Stanford Ave, Apt 405
Baton Rouge LA 70808

Telephone: 225-769-4059