

**HUNTING AND FISHING ADVISORY EDUCATION COUNCIL
REPORT**

June 24, 2014

**WOODY CREWS
CHAIRMAN**

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

The following constitute minutes of the Council 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) 765-2623.

AGENDA
HUNTING AND FISHING ADVISORY EDUCATION COUNCIL
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
June 24 2014

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of October 29, 2013 and March 11, 2014
3. Welcome and Opening Comments, *Woody Crews, Chairman*
4. Enforcement Division Report, *Major Sammy Martin*
5. Legislative Update, *Cole Garrett*
6. Aquatic Plant Control Report, *Alex Perret*
7. Council Discussion: Position on Management of the Red Snapper Stocks
8. Set Next Meeting Date
9. Receive Public Comments
10. Adjournment

HUNTING AND FISHING ADVISORY EDUCATION COUNCIL

Tuesday, June 24, 2014

Roll Call: Chairman Woody Crews presiding, members present included

Warren Singer	Nelson Roth
Ryan Schaefer	Mike Windham
Lyle Johnson	Jeff DeBlieux IV
Woody Crews	Dr. Donald Reed
Jonathan Winslow	Mike Olinde

Council members Alex Perret, Stephen Pellessier, Mike Rainwater, Daryl Carpenter, and David Rousseau were absent from the meeting. Substitutes at the meeting were Mike Olinde for Stephen Pellessier and Jonathan Winslow for Alex Perret. A quorum was present.

The following constitutes a brief report of what was heard

The **Minutes of the October 29, 2013 and March 11, 2014** meetings were not available for review.

Major Sammy Martin stated, for the agenda item, **To Hear Enforcement Division Report**, that there were seventeen (17) boating accidents reported in May with eight (8) injuries and four (4) fatalities. There were 792 total cases for the month of May with 346 Written Warnings issued and 45 Public Assistance Stops provided. Three (3) news releases were discussed.

First, on May 8, a Violet man plead guilty in the 34th Judicial District of St. Bernard Parish for Oyster Violations. Judge Jean Nunez Juneau accepted the guilty plea from Oliver F. Rudessell Jr., 32, and sentenced him to pay a \$650 fine plus court costs and a 60-day jail term that was suspended. He also must not be on a vessel harvesting oysters, possessing oysters or gear to take oysters for two years unless that vessel is equipped with a vessel monitoring system that is monitored by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division Agents.

The second, on May 27, was from Avoyelles Parish where agents were investigating a single vessel incident that claimed the life of a Mansura man on May 25. After investigating agents determined that Marcus Logan Sr., 43, of Mansura, was under the influence of alcohol, while operating the vessel, and arrested him for driving a vessel while intoxicated (DWI). He was also cited for careless operation of a vessel. Future charges may be pending.

The third, on May 28, stated that Enforcement Division agents cited multiple fishermen on May 26 for allegedly fishing in the BP oil spill emergency commercial fishing closure zone. Kenneth Dupre, 47, Don Allen, 55, Bobbie Slocum, 53, all of Gretna, Larence Folse Jr., 62, of Bridge City, Carl Hingle, 50, of Chalmette, Patrick Terrebonne, 39, of Lafitte, Michael A. Duhom, 27, of Marrero, and Manton A. Terrebonne, 57, of Lafitte for engaging in commercial shrimping activity in the area of Bay Jimmy located in Plaquemine Parish.

The next agenda item, **Legislative Update**, was presented by Cole Garrett, Mr. Garrett highlighted the Legislative Session Bills which affected Wildlife and Fisheries:

HB 186 – Provides for the use of sound suppressors in hunting

HB 241 – Makes a technical correction to remove the effective date reference contained in the ballot language for the proposed constitutional amendment that would specify certain residency specification for members of the Wildlife & Fisheries Commission.

HB 312 – Provides for reduced fees for resident hunting and fishing licenses for veterans. Became HB 1284.

HB 344 – Provides relative to fees for hunting and fishing licenses paid by surviving spouses of members of the military killed in action.

HB 347 – Exempts boat trailers from the requirement to have inspection stickers.

HB 353 – Allows year-round day or night hunting of hogs on private property.

HB 367 – Dedicates a certain amount of mineral revenues from oil and gas production in and around Lake Bistineau to weevil production for control of giant salvinia in the lake.

HB 416 – Assigns to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission management responsibility for sustainability of freshwater and saltwater fisheries.

HB 440 – Relative to size and configuration of skimmer nets.

HB 494 – Constitutional Amendment to provide that the right to keep and bear arms includes the right to carry a concealed handgun without a permit or license.

HB 519 – Authorizes the possession of short barrel firearms without federal registration for lifetime concealed handgun permit holders.

HB 520 – Excludes carrying a concealed handgun from the crime of illegal carrying weapons for certain persons.

HB 523 – Provides for possession limits for certain species of bass caught in saltwater areas of the state.

HB 782 – Deposits proceeds collected by the state from the use or withdrawal of surface water into the Aquatic Plant Control Fund for aquatic weed control and eradication.

HB 913 – Creates the Louisiana Finfish Task Force.

HB 958 – Prohibits the transport of live feral hogs.

HB 1008 – Provides for hunting certain small game while mounted and with the aid of dogs.

HB 1046 – Relative to packaging and labeling of oysters, to provide for certain standards for marketable oysters.

HB 1071 – Reduces the time required to qualify as a resident for hunting and fishing licenses.

HB 1072 – Provides for reduced hunting and fishing license fees for certain retired members of the U.S. Armed Forces. Substitute for HB 140.

HB 1082 – Imposes an additional fee on the sale of saltwater fishing licenses and dedicates the revenues.

HB 1154 – Provides for the size and number of escape rings on crab traps.

HB 1160 – To require the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish a program to enhance and elevate professionalism in the commercial crab industry.

HB 1284 – Provides for a special season for Louisiana residents who have been honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces. Substitute for HB 312.

SB 119 – Provides relative to the licensure and regulation of certain farm-raised exotic animals.

SB 154 – Provides relative to the importation of certain fish.

SB 170 – Provides relative to the release of certain game, fowl, or fish.

SB 212 – Allows the use of a firearm sound suppressor when taking game birds and wild quadrupeds, and provides for the use of night vision devices.

SB 246 – Changes the line of the demarcation of the inside and outside waters for purposes of shrimping.

SB 250 – Exempts certain persons from the requirements of the big exotic cats rules.

SB 251 – Provides for the sale or purchase of wild birds and wild quadrupeds.

SB 324 – Allows the year-round taking of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, or beaver during nighttime hours on private property.

SB 344 – Provides for the Louisiana Catch and Cook Program within the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

SB 357 – Bans the importation or private possession of certain constrictor and venomous snakes.

SB 369 – Provides for the possession limits of crappie on Lake D'Arbonne to be fifty fish.

SB 469 – Provides relative to the enforcement of the coastal management program.

SB 662 – Prohibits the taking of game birds or wild quadrupeds while riding or standing in or upon a moving land vehicle or aircraft.

SB 681 – Relative to the disposal of wild birds or wild quadrupeds; allows the taking of outlaw quadrupeds during daylight hours from an aircraft. Substitute for SB 660.

The next item, Office of Inland Fisheries: **LDWF Aquatic Plant Control Program** was provided by Mr. Jonathan Winslow. Mr. Winslow presented a PowerPoint presentation about the acres of plant infestation statewide and the plants of concern, the use of salvinia weevils used pest management and the lakes being sprayed with herbicides and/or treated with weevils. In FY 13/14 there were a total of 66,324 acres of aquatic plants treated by LDWF.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

- Chemical
 - o LDWF
 - o Private Contractors
- Mechanical
 - o Drawdowns
 - o Restrictive Booms
- Biological
 - o Species-specific Control

The next item, **Red Snapper Management**, discussed by the Council openly. Snoop Roth commented on Gulf Council controlling stock harvest. CCA is taking recreational argument to congress. Chairman Crews suggested tabling issue for discussion at a later time. All agreed.

The Council set the **Next Meeting Date** for October 21, 2014

Public Comment was made by David Byrd, representing Kisatchie National Forest, who asked for answers from Inland Fisheries relative to weed control on Corney Lake near Summerfield.

*Future Meetings – suggested by Chairman to meet in April 2015 (pre-session) to determine support, opposition for/against legislation related to fish and game management.

Chairman Crews **Adjourned** the meeting.