

HUNTING AND FISHING ADVISORY EDUCATION COUNCIL

REPORT

OCTOBER 16, 2012

**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
OCTOBER 16, 2012

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of March 15, 2012 AND June 12, 2012
3. Welcome and Opening Comments from Chairman
4. Enforcement Division Report
5. Office of Wildlife: Report on Hurricane Isaac Impacts – WMAs and Deer Season
6. Office of Fisheries: Report on Aquatic Plant Control Budget and Effectiveness
7. Office of Fisheries: Report on Bass Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin
8. Council Discussion of Stated Mission
9. Set Next Meeting Date
10. Receive Public Comments
11. Adjournment

REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF
HUNTING AND FISHING ADVISORY EDUCATION COUNCIL

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Chairman Woody Crews presiding.

Nelson Roth
Mike Rainwater
Alexander Perret
Daryl Carpenter
Mike Windham
Lyle Johnson
Stephen Pellessier
Jeff DeBlieux
Donald Reed

Council members Vance Gordon, Samuel Smith, and David Rousseau were absent from the meeting. The Bayou State Bow Hunters Association has disbanded, and Shane Crochet will no longer be a member. A quorum was not present; therefore, this was not an official meeting. The following constitutes a brief report of what was heard.

The **minutes of the March 15, 2012 and June 12, 2012** meetings were deemed approved by the Chairman in the absence of objection.

Lt. Col. Joey Broussard provided the **Enforcement Division report**.

Mr. Scott Durham provided the **Office of Wildlife: Report on Hurricane Isaac Impacts – WMAs and Deer Season**. The areas of concern are the Lake Maurepas Basin, Plaquemines Parish, and St. Bernard Parish, all of which are historically lower deer density and poor habitat quality areas. Mr. Durham stated that there were 391,000 acres of impact in the Maurepas Basin Area, noting that about 140,000 acres of WMA property was included. A Declaration of Emergency was passed by the Commission to change the deer season in the affected areas.

The next item, **Office of Fisheries: Report on Aquatic Plant Control Budget and Effectiveness**, was provided by Mr. Alexander Perret. Mr. Perret reviewed the four most common invasive species. He noted that when giant salvinia became a problem the budget was increased for proper management. He discussed spraying to manage the growth in areas where invasives are problems, such as Henderson lake, Terrebonne Marsh, Belle River, Toledo Bend, Lake Bistineau, and Saline Lake, and discussed the challenges and success that have been seen.

There was discussion about the success of weevils in controlling the growth of invasive aquatics, as well as the “plant hopper”, which LSU is currently researching.

Mr. Mike Wood handled the **Office of Fisheries: Report on Bass Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin**. Mr. Wood stated that the bass management program is relatively young. After Hurricane Andrew a 14 inch minimum length limit was implemented. In 2012 analysis of an extensive three year LDWF study determined that 14 inch minimum length limit will not produce increased abundance of large bass and is not suitable for the Atchafalaya Basin. Environmental factors, including water fluctuation and the effects of tropical storms override influence of the harvest regulation. Additionally, it takes approximately 3.4 years for Basin bass to reach 14 inches, and Basin bass are short-lived, seldom reaching 5 years of age. Results of the study were released in the attached link and widely distributed in various media, including print, radio, and television. Mr. Wood also sent out an [“Open Letter to Atchafalaya Basin Sportsmen”](#) Mr. Wood’s presentation concluded with questions and discussion surround bass in the Basin.

Next was the **Council Discussion of Stated Mission**. The stated mission, as found on the website, and in Title 56, was discussed to determine whether or not the Council was living up to its purpose. Mr. Crews raised questions to get some ideas on how to promote public awareness. Mr. Garrett stated that he believes this is already being done, because each member of the Council is able to come to the meetings, and then relay the information back to their constituents. Mrs. Rebecca Triche noted that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation supported the council, because having a representative present from all organizations provided avenues for them to relay information back to their prospective organizations. There was discussion on licenses and fees, as well as on the frequency of meetings, as currently there are three held per year.

The Council set the **Next Meeting Date** for early March, unless something comes up.

There were no **Public Comments** heard.

Chairman Crews **Adjourned** the meeting.