

2016



Louisiana Reptile and Amphibian Commercial Rules and Regulations

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

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These regulations apply to native lizards, snakes, turtles, frogs, salamanders, and related species. They do not apply to alligators.

Licenses and Fees

To sell amphibians and reptiles you collect in Louisiana, you must have a **Commercial Reptile and Amphibian Collector's License** (\$25 resident/\$10 resident under age 16; \$200 nonresident).

You must have a **Commercial Gear License** to operate a single-throated hoop net or turtle trap (\$25 resident, \$80 nonresident).

To apply for LDWF-issued licenses, contact **225-765-2898** or visit LDWF's Headquarters at **2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge**. Renew your licenses online at www.la.wildlifelicense.com.

Legal Collection Methods

You may not remove nests or animals tending their nests.

You must mark any trap or other capture device with your name, address, and license number if you leave it unattended.

You must check traps and other capture devices daily.

Turtle traps:

- You must place them in a way that leaves enough area above the waterline for turtles to breathe.
- You must mark them with the words "turtle trap".
- They must have one or more horizontal throat.
- You may not possess finfish while turtle trapping.

You may not use any trap or net to harvest diamondback terrapins.

You may not use gasoline to flush animals from hiding places.

You may not destroy natural habitat such as logs and rocks while

searching for animals.

You may take frogs using any visible light and mechanical devices known as frog catchers or with devices that puncture the skin such as gigs and spears. You may not carry a firearm while hunting/taking frogs at night.

Seasons

You may harvest bullfrogs and pig frogs/grunters year-round, except during the statewide closed season in April and May.

You may not take diamondback terrapins from April 15 to June 15.

Size/Possession Limits

Bullfrogs: must be 5 inches or longer*

Pig frogs/grunters: must be 3 inches or longer*

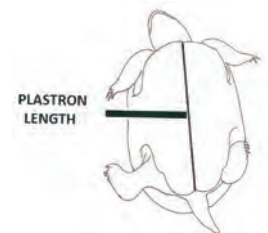
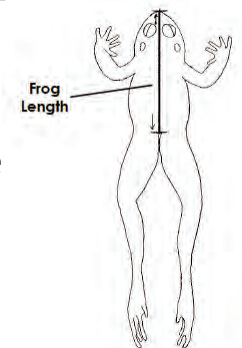
*For frogs, measure length from the tip of the muzzle to the posterior end of the body between the hind legs.

With a special permit, the owner or authorized representative of a privately-owned pond or other waterbody may take frogs under the legal length from his privately-owned pond or waterbody and sell them for the purpose of stocking ponds or waters.

Diamondback terrapins: must measure at least 6 inches long on the plastron (bottom shell plate).

Green anoles: must be 1-3/4 inches snout-vent length or larger or 5 inches overall length or larger

Turtle eggs: You may not harvest turtle eggs, except for those of the red-eared slider.



Restricted Areas

You may not collect reptiles and amphibians for commercial purposes from any Wildlife Management Area (WMA) or state wildlife refuge.

Prohibited Species

You may not harvest alligator snapping turtles or box turtles for commercial purposes.

You may not harvest any of the following species from the wild for any purpose in Louisiana:

Tiger salamander	Kemp's ridley sea turtle
Southern red backed salamander	Leatherback sea turtle
Webster's salamander	Loggerhead sea turtle
Mud salamander	Gopher tortoise
Red salamander	Ringed sawback turtle
Green sea turtle	Dusky gopher frog
Hawksbill sea turtle	Black pine snake
Louisiana pine snake	Eastern diamondback rattlesnake

Buyer, Seller, & Shipper Licenses and Fees

To buy, acquire, or handle any native reptiles or amphibians in Louisiana for resale, you must have a **Reptile and Amphibian Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License** (\$105 resident, \$405 nonresident). You must also have this license to sell these species if they are reared in captivity, regardless of the number of generations removed from the wild. Nonresidents may instead purchase a **Three-Day Reptile and Amphibian Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License**, which is valid for three consecutive days, for \$75.

Operators of commercial transport vehicles, except common carriers, who load, unload, or transport reptiles or amphibians must have one of the following:

- **Collector's or Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License**
- **Reptile and Amphibian Transport License*** (\$20 per vehicle/residents, \$120 per vehicle/nonresidents; transferable between

vehicles. You may only purchase if you hold a Reptile and Amphibian Collector's or Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License. Transport licenseholders may not buy or sell reptiles or amphibians, unless they're purchasing reptiles and amphibians on behalf of the dealer to whom the transport license was issued and transporting the purchase back to them.)

Licensed wholesale/retail seafood dealers are exempt from the above licenses but still must have a **Collector's License**.

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Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements

Dealers and retailers must keep records of the following for three years:

- Quantity and species of reptiles and amphibians acquired, date acquired, and name and license number of the collector, wholesale/retail dealer, or out-of-state seller from which they were acquired.
- Quantity and species of reptiles or amphibians sold, date sold, and name and license number of the person to whom they were sold. If selling to the consumer, records must indicate quantity, species, and date and state that they were sold to the consumer.

When purchasing reptiles and/or amphibians, dealers and retailers must give one part of a three-part receipt to the collector at the time of sale, retain one part, and submit one part to LDWF.

Shipping Requirements

You must plainly mark shipments containing reptiles or amphibians. Tags or certificates must show the names of the buyer and the seller and itemize each species in the shipment.

Bills of lading issued by a common carrier for these shipments must state the number of packages that contain reptiles or amphibians.

Out-of-state shipments of reptiles or amphibians ordinarily used for human consumption must be registered and inspected at some port of exit (unless shipped by a common carrier).



Drop us a line

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