

COMMISSION MEETING  
ROLL CALL

Thursday, May 4, 1995  
Thibodaux, LA  
Nicholls University

	Attended	Absent
Perry Gisclair (Chairman)	<u>✓</u>	—
Glynn Carver	<u>✓</u>	—
Jeff Schneider	<u>✓</u>	—
Tee John Mialjevich	<u>✓</u>	—
Joseph Cormier	<u>✓</u>	—
Jerald Hanchey	—	<u>✓</u>
Peter Vujnovich	<u>✓</u>	—

Mr. Chairman:

There are 36 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.  
Secretary Herring is also present.

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

**BOARD MEETING**

**MAY 4, 1995**

**PERRY GISCLAIR  
CHAIRMAN**

**NICHOLS UNIVERSITY  
THIBODAUX, 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 (504) 765-2806

**AGENDA**  
**LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
**THIBODAUX, LOUISIANA**  
**MAY 4, 1995**

	Page
1. Roll Call	1
2. Approval of Minutes of March 2, 1995	1
3. Louisiana Bass Hatchery Presentation of Dow Chemical Co. Sign Cooperation Between State, Industries and Volunteers	1
4. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association	1
5. Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season	2
6. Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay	6
7. Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines	8
8. Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations	8
9. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent Establishing Crawfish Rules and Regulations, Sherburne WMA	9
10. The Nature Conservancy Acquisition	16
11. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent to Close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to Black Bass Fishing	17
12. Rule Ratification - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations on Eagle Lake	18
13. Notice of Intent - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area	19
14. National Fishing Week Resolution	24
15. Recognition for Louisiana's Outstanding Work in Wetlands Conservation	25
16. Amendment of By-Laws	25

17. Discussion of Rulemaking Procedures (Information Only)	26
18. Set August & September 1995 Meeting Date	27
19. Public Comments	27
20. Adjourn	27

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF  
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, May 4, 1995

Chairman Perry Gisclair presiding.

Glynn Carver  
Peter Vujnovich  
Joseph B. Cormier  
Tee John Mialjevich  
Jeff Schneider

Commissioner Jerald Hanchey was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Joe L. Herring was also present.

Chairman Gisclair called for a motion for approval of the **March 2, 1995 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Mialjevich and seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. The motion passed with no opposition.

**Louisiana Bass Hatchery Presentation of Dow Chemical Co. Sign Cooperation Between State, Industries and Volunteers** began with Mr. Arthur Williams introducing Mr. Pat Richardson. Mr. Richardson, Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Bass Hatchery, stated signs were prepared to recognize the cooperation between Louisiana Bass Hatchery, Dow Chemical and the Department for restocking efforts after Hurricane Andrew. A pond on the Dow Chemical property was used to produce fry and fingerlings for restocking in the Basin area. Mr. Richardson expressed his appreciation to the Department for their work and for the accomplishments. The signs would be placed at the landings around the Atchafalaya Basin and Lake Verret area. Secretary Herring stated this was a good example of how industry, private organizations and the Department could work together. He then thanked Louisiana Bass Hatchery for their efforts in the Basin and other projects throughout the State. Chairman Gisclair also commended the organization for their efforts.

The winner of the **Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association**, Mr. Bill Authement attended the meeting and stated this year's category was Louisiana bullfrogs. The mount was presented to the Department for display in the Baton Rouge office. Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Authement how long it took to complete his project. He then stated the project was a real fine piece of work. Secretary Herring thanked Mr. Authement and the Association. He then explained how the species selection was made and how the competition was held during the Taxidermist's Annual Convention.

Secretary Herring then thanked Mr. Authement and the Association for supplying the Department with the mounted specimens.

Before beginning the Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season, Chairman Gisclair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Nichols University for the use of the hall. Mr. Corky Perret stated he sincerely appreciated Nichols University's help in providing the auditorium. The discussion began with overheads of production landings from 1980 through 1994; production by month for 1994 as compared with 1993 production and a mean for years 1987 through 1994; catch of shrimp in Louisiana; and shrimp gear license sales for 1976 through 1994.

Next, Mr. Perret presented hydrological information. Graphs showed rainfall for southeast Louisiana; amount of discharge for the Mississippi River system; monthly and daily salinity for the northern and southern Barataria Bay system; water temperatures, by month and daily, for the Barataria Bay system; brown shrimp nursery acres in April; and a map showing the monitoring sampling stations. The next set of graphs pertained to the catch of shrimp in test samples such as postlarval catch taken with a small mesh plankton net. This year, thus far, little recruitment has shown up in the samples due to minimum southeast winds and tides during March. Data from 6' trawl tests by numbers and mean size were shown as well as catch per effort in a ten minute test across the state. Tidal ranges and tidal factors for Barataria Pass for May and a map showing the three shrimp zones were shown. Then a chart for each zone was shown displaying when marketable size shrimp (100 count) would cross the 50 percent criteria line. Mr. Perret concluded, the expected dates when shrimp would cross the 50 percent criteria line for Zone 1 would be May 19, Zone 2 would be May 18 and Zone 3 would be May 26. Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Perret to repeat the cross over dates and asked what were the Department's recommendations. The staff has recommended opening Zone 2 on May 15, Zone 1 on May 22 and May 29 for Zone 3. Chairman Gisclair then asked why have two different openings a week apart for a one day difference in the cross over criteria? Mr. Brandt Savoie stated the shrimp in Zone 1 hold in for a much longer period of time than the central portion of the state and may produce a larger shrimp. Chairman Gisclair then asked the public to comment on the options of a different opening for each zone or opening Zones 1 and 2 on May 15 and Zone 3 on May 29. He then stated there were a lot of man-hours involved in preparing the presentation and thanked the staff for the presentation.

Mr. Gary Mouk, President of Gulf Coast Commercial Fisherman Organization, stated they met with one of the biologists and the organization requested opening no earlier than May 8th and no later than May 15th for Zone 2.

Mr. T-Roy Bourg, Leeville, asked to open the season on May 10th in order to have the majority of the moon.

Mr. Bruce Garrett, shrimper from Zone 1, began talking about the 1994 season and how it was opened too late and he hoped the season this year would open early. He then stated if the season was not open on the right dates, businesses would shut down. He asked for May 15th for opening Zone 1. Commissioner Mialjevich and Chairman Gisclair again asked the audience to express their view on having three different openings or having Zones 1 and 2 open and then follow with Zone 3.

Mr. Frank Campo, Jr., member of United Commercial Fisherman's Organization, stated they wanted Zones 1 and 2 opened on May 15th. He then stated the shrimp were not staying in the area of Zone 1 like in years past because of the freshwater coming into Lake Pontchartrain.

Mayor Tim Kerner, Town of Jean Lafitte, presented a petition from the fishermen in his area to open Zone 2 on May 15th. He then asked the Commissioners not to go past May 15th with the opening date and explained why. Mayor Kerner stated if you open Zones 1 and 2 together, it would be better for all the fishermen.

Mr. Richard Cheramie stated, in years past, by the time the season opened 75 percent of the shrimp had already left. He felt the season should open on May 8th. Mr. Cheramie then stated the season should be opened on May 15th for all three zones.

Mr. Gene Adams stated the area fishermen in Zone 2 petitioned for that area to open no later than May 15th, but would prefer an opening date of May 8th because of the moon.

Mr. Mark Tinney, Yscloskey, stated he wanted Zones 1 and 2 to open on May 15th.

Mr. J. St. Mart asked Mr. Brandt Savoie if any data was available on catch and landings in Week 18 for Zone 2? Mr. Savoie stated the samples showed smaller shrimp were moving in and the larger shrimp are moving into the bigger bays. Then Mr. St. Mart stated there were quite a lot of shrimp moving offshore now and that Zones 1 and 2 and possibly 3 should be opened on May 15th.

Mrs. JoAnn Toups asked to open Zones 1 and 2 on May 15th.

Mr. Brad Duet, Golden Meadow, stated the shrimp he was catching were running 80 to 100 count.

Mr. Bill Dekemel, East Bank Commercial Fisherman's Association, stated after looking at the data, the later an opening date the more production you have. He noted in Zone 1, there were no recruitments during the last few days of April. His

organization would not make a recommendation for Zones 2 and 3 but recommended opening Zone 1 on May 29th at 6:00 a.m.

Mr. John Chabert, an inside trawler, stated the shrimp are leaving now; and with the next moon, more shrimp would be leaving. He recommended opening the season before the moon on May 8th.

Mr. George Terrebonne, Seafood Shed, stated the moon would be full on the 14th of May and a lot would be moving three days before that. He recommended opening the season on May 8th.

An unidentified speaker stated his area to shrimp was from Lake Borgne and the Louisiana Marsh to the mouth of the Mississippi River and then asked to open his area early.

Mr. Frank Campo began by thanking the Commission for letting the public express their views and for the extension on last year's season. He recommended opening Zones 1 and 2 on May 15th.

Commissioner Cormier asked Mr. Bill Dekemel why was he asking for May 29th when 84 percent of the shrimp would be over the 50 percent cross over line. Mr. Dekemel stated his organization held a meeting and voted on a recommendation and that was the date he needed to ask the Commission to consider. He stated recruitment was down and that if the season for Zone 1 was opened on May 15th, there would be a considerable loss to the crop of shrimp. Mr. Dekemel stated the Commission needed to listen to public input and put it with the biological information and come up with a compromise.

Mr. George Terrebonne stated if the season opened too late, a lot of shrimp would be brought in from the Gulf and the smaller boats would be hurt not only in the amount of available catch but also the price.

An unidentified speaker stated he wanted the season to be fair and that he could produce pictures of boats from Zone 1 going into Zone 2 and catching the smaller shrimp.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Gisclair called for a recess. After the recess, Chairman Gisclair asked the Commissioners if they had a recommendation? Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to open Zones 1 and 2 on May 15th at 6:00 a.m., and open Zone 3 on May 29th at 6:00 a.m. Commissioner Vujnovich seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

Chairman Gisclair asked about an opening date for the Territorial Waters? Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to open the Territorial waters on May 15th at 6:00 a.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. This motion also passed with no opposition. Mr. Brandt Savoie read the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency into the record. Commissioner Mialjevich made a

motion to accept the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency as amended. Commissioner Vujnovich seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

#### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS,** the traditional management criteria used by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in recommending the opening dates for the spring inshore shrimp season are based on the population of shrimp in each zone reaching such a size that 50% or more of the shrimp are 100 count per pound or larger, and

**WHEREAS,** current biological data show that at least 50% of the 1995 brown shrimp crop will meet the 100 count per pound management criteria in shrimp management Zone 1 by May 19, 1995, in Zone 2 by May 18, 1995 and in Zone 3 by May 26, 1995, and

**WHEREAS,** the staff has indicated that biological samples have shown that some of the larger shrimp in Zones 1 and 2 have begun moving into the larger bays, and

**WHEREAS,** the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a general policy sets the season to open on a Monday.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Commission hereby opens the spring inshore shrimp season in Zone 1 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995, in Zone 2 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995 and in Zone 3 at 6 a.m. May 29, 1995.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Commission hereby opens that portion of the State's Territorial Waters (outside waters) from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou, at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Commission hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any portion of Louisiana's inshore waters to protect small white shrimp.

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Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
La. Wildlife & Fisheries  
Commission

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Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Department of Wildlife &  
Fisheries

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season to open as follows:

Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the Mississippi State Line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, to open at 6 a.m., May 15, 1995; and

Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, to open at 6 a.m., May 15, 1995; and

Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m., May 29, 1995; and

Sets the opening of that portion of Louisiana's Territorial Waters (outside waters) from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel westward to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou at 6 a.m., May 15, 1995.

The Commission also hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any zone or portion of the State's waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay was presented by Mr. Brandt Savoie. Fishermen from the Vermilion Bay area requested this night shrimping closure in the Bay as well as the East and West Cote Blanche bays and it was approved by the Commission last year for both the spring and fall seasons. A bill is in the Legislature this year to make this ban a permanent rule; but for the time being, a Declaration of Emergency was needed. Mr. Savoie read the Declaration of Emergency for the record.

Mr. Bill Dekemel asked Mr. Savoie to read the first paragraph of the Declaration of Emergency and then to explain what was the imminent peril? Mr. Savoie stated the Department was exempt from some rules when setting seasons through the Administrative Procedure Act. Mr. Dekemel felt this was pretty strong language for a few fishermen to stop a method of fishing, but then stated he did not mind it as long as it stayed in that one specific area.

Mr. Charlie Sanable, a fisherman in Vermilion Bay, thanked the Commission for closing the night shrimping last year because it improved the season.

Commissioner Mialjevich stated Senate Bill 409 by Senator Foster would take this emergency rule and make it a permanent rule. Then Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept the Declaration of Emergency and was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. This motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

##### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act and R.S. 56:6(25)a, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit shrimping between official sunset and official sunrise in the inside waters as described in R.S. 56:495 from the western side of the Atchafalaya River Channel out to Eugene Island to the western shore of Vermilion Bay, not to include Southwest Pass at Marsh Island south of a line drawn from the following points:

The western side of Southwest Pass at its northwestern point to the Green Light Channel Marker Number 9, at latitude 29°36'58" longitude 92°00'21", thence northeast to Green Light Channel Marker Number 1, at latitude 29°37'34" longitude 91°59'36", thence southeast to the eastern side of Big Charles Bayou, at latitude 29°36'54" longitude 91°59'00", thence southwesterly to the western shore of Big Charles Bayou, at latitude 29°36'50" longitude 91°59'12".

This rule shall be in effect for the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines was the next item announced by Chairman Gisclair. An unidentified speaker stated everyone should be able to make a living and felt there should not be a moratorium.

Mr. Epstock from the south Lafourche area, stated he appreciates the moratorium, but he felt there should be another solution found that would allow other people to get their licenses. He also stated everyone should work together to get a system that would help fishermen better. Commissioner Mialjevich stated the moratorium was only a tool to be used until a Limited Entry program could be implemented by the Legislature. Mr. Epstock stated he supported the moratorium as long as other fishermen have the chance to get into the industry.

Mr. Bill Dekemel stated the fishermen in his organization were against any kind of limited entry program if it was not based on biological information. He also said he was not willing to support anything that would not allow the right to fish and that the moratorium was wrong.

An unidentified speaker stated the moratorium should try to stop out-of-state fishermen from coming into Louisiana and the residents of Louisiana should be able to get a license.

Mr. Brad Duhe stated he had a gill net license in 1993 and asked, if the moratorium was passed, would he be allowed to get a license anymore? He felt all commercial fishermen should be allowed to get a license and was against the out-of-state fishermen coming into Louisiana.

Chairman Gisclair then read into the record a letter from St. Bernard Parish Government that supported the moratorium on saltwater finfish license sales for a three year period.

Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations began with Mr. Hugh Bateman reminding the Commissioners of their action on a Notice of Intent taken in March 1995. Commissioner Schneider asked about the changes on the black powder season and what were they changed from? Commissioner Carver stated he asked the Department to look at other options for the black powder season. Mr. Bateman stated the change would establish a statewide seven day uniform muzzleloader season that would begin on December 2 and run through December 8. Commissioner Carver then made a motion to have a statewide seven day muzzleloader for those specific dates. Chairman Gisclair asked if this change could be incorporated into the regulations? Commissioner Schneider asked when would the rule be ratified? Mr. Bateman stated July was when the final vote would be taken provided everything goes okay.

Commissioner Carver asked if the changes should be taken individually or as a group in July when final ratification occurred? He then withdrew his motion and stated he just wanted to provide an opportunity for that user-group to hunt days that they would not normally be able to hunt. Mr. Don Puckett stated the public could be notified of the change through a Press Release but that it did not require a motion.

Mr. Richard Dugas suggested having the hunting pamphlets available and in the hands of the hunters before the seasons open. He also suggested publishing the pamphlet once every five years and print only changes annually. The phone number for enforcement should be listed in the pamphlet so the public could call and ask questions stated Mr. Dugas.

Mr. Gary Ruth, from south Lafourche, stated he would rather see the limits raised for duck hunting and cut the length of the season.

Mr. Bateman replied to Mr. Dugas that the phone numbers for the district offices and the 1-800 number were listed in the pamphlets. The pamphlets are distributed to the Sheriff's Office and other retail outlets by the first week of September and this may affect only the first split of dove season. Then to Mr. Ruth, Mr. Bateman stated Louisiana hunters wanted the additional days instead of the additional duck.

An unidentified speaker stated he presented to the Commissioners a petition from landowners in Tangipahoa Parish who requested a still hunting season only. The area to be considered was three or four miles east of Wilmer off Highway 10.

Mr. Hugh Bateman then stated the setting of the turkey hunting seasons would be handled separately from the other hunting seasons and would go through the same Administrative Procedure Act process as these regulations go through. A separate pamphlet for the turkey season would be produced. The available data for setting the seasons would help the staff make a better and more technical recommendation for the next season. He then asked the Commission to agree with the staff in withdrawing the turkey information from the hunting pamphlet and bringing another set of recommendations maybe in June or July. Chairman Gisclair stated this would be a step in the right direction and asked if it was the consensus of the Commission to go ahead and withdraw the turkey season information. Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to remove the turkey information from the pamphlet and discuss it in June or July. Commissioner Carver seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

The next item to be discussed was the Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent Establishing Crawfish Rules and Regulations, Sherburne WMA. Mr. Tommy Prickett stated the rules were to

regulate crawfishing on one small portion of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. He then asked Mr. Dave Morrison to explain the on-going project on Sherburne. Mr. Morrison stated one of the primary objectives of the project was to protect a wetland development project. The project was planned for the southeastern portion of Sherburne WMA near Ramah and I-10 and would include approximately 2,400 acres. Exxon Corporation, Ducks Unlimited, Corps of Engineers, the Department and a Grant have contributed to making this project a success. Mr. Morrison explained how the North Farm and South Farm portion of Sherburne would be used. Hopefully, the project would prove to be beneficial for wetlands and waterfowl concluded Mr. Morrison. Mr. Prickett stated the reason for the Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent was to protect the waterfowl project and reforestation activities. He then explained how the permit would work, cost of the permit, the season dates and the conditions for getting into the areas for crawfishing. Chairman Gisclair asked how much commercial fishing was in that area now, would there be a limit on the number of traps used and about the \$50 administrative fee. Commissioner Carver asked if this was going to be a lagniappe situation? Commissioner Mialjevich asked, how would the Department keep track of the recreational harvesters on the property, why was the administrative fee being charged to the commercial fishermen and not the recreational fishermen, and how does the permittee's helper work? Mr. Prickett asked the Commission to adopt a resolution that would begin the process for the Notice of Intent and enact the Declaration of Emergency. He read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution and noted Mr. Puckett advised adding Section 56:761 in the Authority Note. Commissioner Cormier made a motion to accept the Resolution, Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent. Commissioner Carver seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

#### RESOLUTION

##### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

**WHEREAS,** the Department is responsible for both the management of the wildlife resources and habitats and providing opportunities for the citizens of Louisiana to enjoy these resources on the Department's Wildlife Management Areas, and

**WHEREAS,** there are times that wildlife management and public use are incompatible, and

**WHEREAS,** the Department has planned a unique and important wetland project on the agricultural lands associated with Sherburne WMA, and

**WHEREAS,** this Department is being assisted financially with this project by Ducks Unlimited and Exxon Corporation, and

**WHEREAS,** unrestricted crawfishing on this portion of Sherburne WMA will negatively impact this important project, and

**WHEREAS,** the Department does not desire to completely restrict recreational or commercial crawfishing activities on these agricultural lands, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached rules governing crawfishing activities on Sherburne WMA by Declaration of Emergency, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a Notice of Intent is also being submitted in order to establish a permanent rule concerning this issue through the Administrative Procedure Act.

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Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
La. Wildlife & Fisheries  
Commission

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Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Department of Wildlife &  
Fisheries

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:109 and R.S. 56:761, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

**Title 76**

**WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

**Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life**

**Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing**

**§177. Crawfishing on Agricultural Lands Within Sherburne WMA**

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in

fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the Wildlife Management Area, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife;
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts;
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features;
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a Wild Louisiana Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Violation of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1 to July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (contact the Opelousas office for the appropriate maps).

South Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfish harvesting permitted from April 1 to July 31 (contact the Opelousas office for the appropriate maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_  
Description: Contact the Opelousas office for appropriate maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Wild Louisiana Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.
- 7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.
- 8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational  
\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority Note: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:109 and R.S. 56:761.

Historical Note: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 21: .

The Commission finds crawfishing similar to that experienced in 1994 will negatively impact reforestation efforts, cause user conflicts and disturb wildlife. It is also possible that the loss of a valuable timber resource might occur. This Declaration of Emergency will provide for both commercial and recreational crawfishing without negatively impacting wildlife or timber resources. The Commission will take the necessary steps to establish permanent rules for crawfishing on this property by means of normal rule making processes.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

#### 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 promulgate a rule governing both recreational and commercial crawfishing on agricultural lands within the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

#### Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

#### §177. Crawfishing on Agricultural Lands Within Sherburne WMA

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the Wildlife Management Area, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife;
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts;
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features;

4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a Wild Louisiana Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Violation of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1 to July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (contact the Opelousas office for maps).

South Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfish harvesting permitted from April 1 to July 31 (contact the Opelousas office for maps).



Conservancy for making 420 acres available to the Department which would be included in the Tunica Hills Wildlife Management Area. The additional acreage would open the area for a wider range of public use and would be protected by the Department and the Natural Registry System. Chairman Gisclair asked what was the total acreage for the Wildlife Management Area?

Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent to Close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to Black Bass Fishing was presented by Mr. Arthur Williams. The Reservoir is a new lake recently stocked with 100 adult Florida largemouth bass. The rule would protect the fish for two years. Chairman Gisclair asked if there was any effort to weed out fish already in the lake or was the lake being created for a trophy lake? Commissioner Mialjevich asked what kind of wild fish are in the lake now? Commissioner Carver asked if the lake has been fished between the stocking of the adult bass and the date of this presentation, if some of the stocked bass could have been removed already, and what was the size of the stocked bass? Commissioner Mialjevich asked if there would be ample notice of this closure? Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept the Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich and passed with no opposition.

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

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in order to ensure and accelerate the establishment of black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish, do hereby enact the following emergency rule:

Effective May 4, 1995, it shall be unlawful to retain or possess black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has recently (March 23, 1995) stocked 100 adult black bass broodstock of the Florida strain into John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish). This stocking was made pre-spawn in an effort to introduce Florida bass genes into the reservoir at the time of impoundment. This closure will assure that the fish remain in the reservoir for at least two spawning seasons. The failure to immediately close the reservoir to the retention or possession of black bass constitutes

an imminent peril to the public welfare as this will result in substantial losses to the Florida black bass broodstock.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby advertises its intent to establish a rule for possession of black bass in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§179. Black Bass Regulations - John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir

It shall be unlawful to retain or possess black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish. This rule will expire at midnight, May 31, 1997.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Mr. Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr., Administrator, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 5, 1995.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

Rule Ratification for Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations on Eagle Lake was also presented by Mr. Arthur Williams. He stated that a Notice of Intent was presented in November to put a 14 inch minimum length limit on largemouth bass in Eagle Lake. This was requested by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife and Parks who manages the lake and ratification was being requested. Commissioner Mialjevich asked what would happen at midnight on April 2, 1996? Could any legal size bass be caught? Mr. Williams read the Rule into the record. Commissioner Carver asked if this

rule was for only one year and what was the size limit? He then made a motion to accept the Rule and was seconded by Commissioner Mialjevich. The motion passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Rule is made a part of the record.)

#### RULE

#### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby amends the following rule on black bass (Micropterus spp.) on Eagle Lake located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

#### Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

#### §169. Black Bass Regulations, Eagle Lake

The size regulation for black bass (Micropterus spp.) on Eagle Lake located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana is as follows:

It shall be unlawful to take or possess, while on the water or while fishing in the water, black bass less than 14 inches total length on Eagle Lake, located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana. This rule will expire at midnight, April 2, 1996.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 (25) (a), 325(C), 326.3.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 19:909 (July 1993); amended LR 21: (May 1995).

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

A Notice of Intent for Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area was the final item presented by Mr. Arthur Williams. The current rule was set to expire in October 1995 and he requested the Commission approve the Notice of Intent to extend the 14 inch minimum for two more years. Chairman Gisclair asked if Mr. Williams had received any comments opposing this Intent? Mr. Williams stated the Department has received 16

letters and a petition with 490 signatures for the extension and a petition with 418 signatures and 5 letters opposing the extension. Commissioner Schneider asked about the testimony received during April? Commissioner Mialjevich asked what was the primary opposition? Chairman Gisclair asked for background information on the present rule and the requested extension. Mr. Williams stated a 14 inch minimum on largemouth bass was set after Hurricane Andrew came through the Atchafalaya Basin and Lake Verret areas. The efforts have been very successful in the recovery. Along the way, the staff has discovered a phenomenal growth rate in the Basin and they wanted the chance to obtain more data on this situation. Commissioner Schneider asked if this was a once in a lifetime opportunity? Commissioner Carver asked what was the contributing factor to the rapid growth rate, and what was the average length of the first year spawn? Then he asked if there were plenty of bass now over 14 inches available for catch? Commissioner Mialjevich asked, with the sampling being done, what is the percent of bass over and under 14 inches, and when would the next samples be taken? Mr. Williams stated the Department wanted to begin the procedure to extend the minimum size limit so there would not be a gap in the data being obtained. Commissioner Carver stated, biologically speaking, this is a very unusual opportunity and additional time was needed to find out what was happening in the Basin. He then asked if the Florida strain bass were stocked in the Basin. Chairman Gisclair then asked for public comments.

Mr. Warren Sheets stated his camp was not in the Basin and this area had an entirely different ecosystem from the Basin. He also stated he was tired of regulations for special interest groups and wanted the minimum size limit taken off. Again he stated his area was different from the Basin and did not receive the flood waters that occur in the Basin. Commissioner Carver stated he thought that the Commission was trying to go along with the staff.

Mr. Max Freeman, a camp owner at Belle River, began asking when would the regulations be over? The only group that has an interest in this regulation was tournament bass fishermen and there are a lot of individual fishermen that are tired of the regulations. Mr. Freeman felt a 14 inch fish was a good sized fish to keep. He suggested looking at the whole state to find out what the people want and not just what the bass clubs want. Commissioner Carver stated the Commission's job was to protect the resources and biologically speaking, a 14 inch limit was not unreasonable. He felt the recommendations from the biologists was to protect the resources for future generations.

Mr. Wayne Allemond, Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs, stated the members of the Association voted in favor of the 14 inch extension. He stated fish develop through management and if this extension would allow the Department to study the bass in the Basin, which is a unique area, then it should be done for two additional years.

Mr. Pat Richardson, Louisiana Bass Hatchery, stated his organization strongly endorses the request to extend the 14 inch minimum size in the Lake Verret-Atchafalaya Basin area. There was no question there are plenty of fish in the Basin now but the decisions to be made are based on the management of the resources. Mr. Richardson felt the extension of the minimum length limit for two years would enable the staff to accumulate data to make the right decisions to manage the resources in the different ecosystems of the Basin. Commissioner Mialjevich asked Mr. Richardson to elaborate on what the management of the resources properly was, was it to be managed for abundance, size limit, or creel limit? Mr. Richardson responded the proper tool or tools was not yet known to properly manage the Basin so there would be an abundance of fish for years to come. Chairman Gisclair stated the storm killed a lot of fish and everyone should be complimented on returning the different stocks.

Commissioner Cormier stated to Mr. Sheets and Mr. Freeman the resource being discussed was a recreational resource and that the special interest groups are recreationally based. The point that needed to be addressed was the enhancement of the recreational resources, stated Commissioner Cormier. Then he stated he needed to look at the actual resources and that he can understand their feelings of maybe being on the minority side. Mr. Sheets stated he has fished both sides for 30 years but the area where his camp is has an entirely different ecosystem.

Mr. Aubry Hamilton, past president of Louisiana Association of Bass Clubs, explained how members of that organization helped in the restocking of the Basin. He then stated the Association has imposed a minimum length limit for tournaments for the past 25 years and the tournaments are 100 percent catch and release. Mr. Hamilton stated they were behind the extension 100 percent in order to get the Basin to the way it was 30 years ago. Commissioner Cormier commended Mr. Hamilton and his association for the contribution to the resource and stated the Commission could not be one sided when making a decision.

Mr. Max Freeman stated the chances of a bass dying are greater when implementing a catch and release program. There are no records kept stating how many fish would live after releasing fish following a tournament. Mr. Williams stated this type of study was done on Lake Bistineau with very little mortality. The results of a study from Auburn University showed it was hard to kill a bass if that fish was handled properly.

Commissioner Carver asked Mr. Williams what spring would have the first spawn since the stocking began in the Basin; when would the fish from the first year spawn reach the 14 inch minimum length; and why was the requested rule being extended to 1997 instead of 1996.

Mr. Sid Sanders, CPR Spillway, explained some of the uniqueness of the Atchafalaya Basin such as a declining fish base due to the number of fishermen in the area, and the shrinking of the Basin. He felt the decline in population was because there were too many people fishing in the area. He concluded saying he was in support of the recommendation to maintain the 14 inch minimum for two more years.

Mr. Joe Treffert stated he found it hard to land four or five bass on his fishing trips before Hurricane Andrew. But since the restocking and the 14 inch limit, things have changed for the better. He noted he was in favor of the 14 inch length limit.

Mr. Jay Hanneman stated the Commissioners job was to protect the resources for future generations and that the management of the fish was for him and his children to enjoy. He felt the 14 inch limit would be good for the Basin. Commissioner Mialjevich asked Mr. Williams if the creel limit was 10 fish with a 14 inch minimum?

An unidentified speaker stated he has seen the fish population decline before Hurricane Andrew and felt the 14 inch limit was a factor that helped with the recovery of the bass. He then asked for the 14 inch limit to continue for another two years.

Mr. Arthur Williams stated if the 14 inch limit was not continued, the bass population would not be devastated but would return to pre-Hurricane conditions. The Department would like to see if the high numbers of bass could be maintained. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the bass population could be maintained at 12 inches or 13 inches?

Ms. Stephanie Scarborough stated she and her family has enjoyed fishing in the Basin this past year and would like to see the 14 inch limit continue for another two years.

Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Williams to read the Notice of Intent for the record.

Mr. Dan Brabham indicated a few contradictions that were said by previous speakers about the best size for bass to spawn. He felt the situation to be considered was not whether the resource was threatened but a matter of what should be done with the fish. He asked, why would the Department want to see if fish less than 14 inches could be moved to over 14 inch fish and why would there be a need for large fish in the Basin? Mr. Brabham suggested the Department do a scientific survey to find out exactly what the people of Louisiana want. Commissioner Carver commented the Department was not managing for big bass but protecting the age group that are the major spawners in order to maintain the populations. He then restated the Department's position in trying to determine if quality fish could be maintained in high numbers. Commissioner Carver asked a question for thought: If the Basin does

maintain high populations of fish above the 14 inch fish, does anyone know how many tourist dollars would be spent in the area? Chairman Gisclair reminded Mr. Brabham this process would take 120 days for the rule to be ratified and invited everyone to comment during this time. Mr. Brabham then stated another random survey should be done asking what the people want and requested not extending the 14 inch minimum.

Mr. Ernie Gammon, CPR Spillway and Black Bass Advisory Council, stated the mortality rate for bass stocked was less than one-half of one percent and that over 95 percent of the bass fishermen interviewed in the Basin want to see some type of bass management continued. The Black Bass Advisory Council supports the Department's recommendation to continue the 14 inch limit. Mr. Gammon then read into the record a letter from the Baton Rouge Sportsman's League supporting the 14 inch extension. Also, Dr. Fred Bryan asked Mr. Gammon to relay his support for the Department's recommendation.

Mr. Richard Dugas stated he was in support of the 14 inch minimum limit. Then he complimented the Wildlife and Fisheries staff for the job they did.

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Carver made a motion to accept the Notice of Intent and was seconded by Commissioner Cormier. The motion passed with opposition from Commissioner Mialjevich.

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

#### NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby advertises its intent to amend a rule for black bass size regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin and the Lake Verret Area.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

#### Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

#### §165. Black Bass Regulations - Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area

It shall be unlawful to take or possess, while on the water or while fishing in the water, black bass less than 14 inches in total length in the area south of U.S. 190 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to the intersection of LA 1 and U.S. 190 due north of Port Allen, east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee from U.S. 190 to U.S. 90, north of U.S. 90 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to LA 20, north and west of LA 20 from U.S. 90 to LA 1 in Thibodaux, south and west of LA 1 from LA 20 to U.S. 190. This rule will expire at midnight, September 30, 1997.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:326.3 and 325 C.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 19:361 (March 1993), amended LR 21:

Interested persons may submit written comments on the amended rule to Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr, Administrator, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 no later than 4:30 PM, Wednesday, July 5, 1995.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

National Fishing Week Resolution was presented by Mr. Paul Jackson. This resolution was similar to the ones passed by the Commission for the past six or seven years. He then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Cormier made a motion to accept the Resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. The motion passed with no opposition.

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

#### RESOLUTION

#### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

**WHEREAS,** sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

**WHEREAS,** sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

**WHEREAS,** the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and

**WHEREAS,** Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

**WHEREAS,** Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 5-11, 1995 as

**FISHING WEEK**

in the State of Louisiana, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that June 10 and 11, 1995 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

DATE: May 4, 1995

\_\_\_\_\_  
Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

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Glynn Carver  
Vice-Chairman

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John F. "Jeff" Schneider

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Joseph B. Cormier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Vujnovich

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Tee John Mialjevich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerald Hanchey

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe L. Herring, Secretary

Recognition for Louisiana's Outstanding Work in Wetlands Conservation began with Secretary Herring announcing the Department was presented with a plaque for the Outstanding State in the nation for wetlands work. For the last three national or international meetings attended by Secretary Herring, he also noted Louisiana has received an award for the work done.

Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Don Puckett to explain the three proposals on the Amendment of By-Laws. The first proposal was to change the month for the election of officers from December to January. The second proposal would not allow the Chairman to

succeed himself, but the Vice-Chairman could succeed himself. The last proposal relates to the agenda and order of business in that if a Commissioner wants an item on the agenda, it should be put on except if it was outside the constitutional or statutory authority or if it was inappropriate to be considered at the meeting requested. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if this last proposal would apply to items that would be for discussion or for vote or both? Commissioner Cormier asked if it was not true the By-Laws were set up so a new Commission member could have a year to evaluate the other members before having to vote in December? Then he asked why would the Commission want to vote for officers in January? Commissioner Carver answered to Commissioner Cormier so that an out-going member could not influence the election for the coming year. Commissioner Cormier stated he felt there was not a need to change. Then discussion between Commissioner Cormier and Commissioner Carver continued on this proposal. On the second proposal, Commissioner Cormier asked why not allow the Chairman to succeed himself if he has done an adequate job for that year? Chairman Gisclair commented that limiting the Chairman to one year would allow for a greater cross section and more people could serve as Chairman. Chairman Gisclair then asked the Commissioners not to consider Option B for the last proposal. Commissioner Schneider reminded all that this next January there would be two new members coming on board. Commissioner Carver asked why not have the Election of Officers in June or July since it would allow everyone six months to evaluate their fellow members? Commissioner Cormier requested taking each proposal separately. Mr. Puckett suggested taking each proposal in order. Commissioner Mialjevich asked, on the third proposal, if he suggested an item for the agenda, would that item be placed or could the Chairman decide to take it off?

Chairman Gisclair then asked for a motion on the first proposal, the Election of Officers to be held in January instead of December. Commissioner Carver made a motion to accept the first proposal and was seconded by Commissioner Mialjevich. The motion passed with Commissioners Cormier and Schneider opposing. Chairman Gisclair then asked for a motion on the second proposal, the Chairman not succeeding himself. Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept and was seconded by Commissioner Carver. The motion passed with opposition from Commissioner Cormier and Commissioner Schneider abstaining. The last proposal, Option A was the next item to be voted on stated Chairman Gisclair. Commissioner Schneider made a motion to accept Option A for the third proposal. This was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich and passed with no opposition.

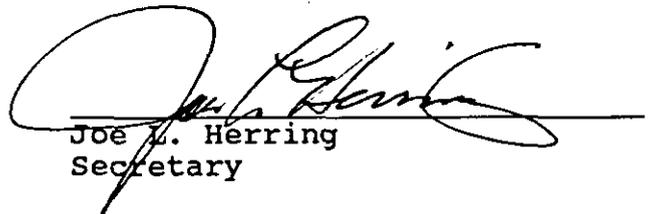
**A Discussion of Rulemaking Procedures for Information Only** was handled by Mr. Don Puckett. A booklet on rulemaking was developed mainly for use by the Division Administrators and right now the booklet was being updated to meet some changes in the law. The main reason for the discussion at the meeting was to obtain the Commission's concurrence on allowing rules not controversial in

nature to be delegated to the Secretary to ratify. Mr. Puckett stated this procedure would possibly save a month's time in the rulemaking process. However, if a Commission member asked the item be placed on the agenda or if there was a change in the language, then the rule would be brought back before the Commission for final ratification. Commissioner Schneider asked if there could be a process that would remind the Commissioners of when a rule would be ratified. Commissioner Cormier asked if this was being proposed to minimize paperwork and would it interfere with the public being allowed to comment? Commissioner Mialjevich asked Mr. Puckett if he needed to write a resolution and have the Commissioners vote on it at the next meeting? Then he stated the public was not aware the Commission would be voting on this item. Commissioner Schneider suggested Mr. Puckett write a resolution for the Commission to vote on at the next meeting.

The Commissioners voted to hold the August 1995 Meeting on Thursday, August 3, 1995 in the Buras Auditorium or Empire Citizen Club area, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Then they voted to hold the September 1995 Meeting on Thursday, September 7, 1995 in the Baton Rouge office, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Gisclair then asked for Public Comments. He stated he had a letter from the Delta Commercial Fisherman's Association that he wanted placed in the Commission Meeting file.

There being no further business, Commissioner Schneider made a motion to Adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Cormier.

  
Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

JLH:sch

Draft  
Corrections made  
5/24/95 - sch

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, May 4, 1995

Chairman Perry Gisclair presiding.

Glynn Carver  
Peter Vujnovich  
Joseph B. Cormier  
Tee John Mialjevich  
Jeff Schneider

Commissioner Jerald Hanchey was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Joe L. Herring was also present.

Chairman Gisclair called for a motion for approval of the **March 2, 1995 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Mialjevich and seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. The motion passed with no opposition.

**Louisiana Bass Hatchery Presentation of Dow Chemical Co. Sign Cooperation Between State, Industries and Volunteers** began with Mr. Arthur Williams introducing Mr. Pat Richardson. Mr. Richardson, Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Bass Hatchery, stated signs were prepared to recognize the cooperation between ~~the Louisiana Bass Hatchery, Dow Chemical and the Department for the restocking efforts after Hurricane Andrew.~~ A pond on the Dow Chemical property was used to produce fry and fingerling ~~for the restocking in the Basin area.~~ Mr. Richardson expressed his appreciation to the Department for their work and for the accomplishments. The signs would be placed at the landings around the Atchafalaya Basin and Lake Verret area. Secretary Herring stated this was a good example of how industry, private organizations and the Department could work together. He then thanked ~~the Louisiana Bass Hatchery~~ for their efforts in the Basin and other projects throughout the State. Chairman Gisclair also commended the organization for their efforts.

The winner of the **Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association**, Mr. Bill Authement attended the meeting and stated this year's category was ~~the Louisiana bullfrogs.~~ The **Secretary's Cup** was presented to the Department for display in the Baton Rouge office. Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Authement how long ~~did it take~~ to complete his project. He then stated the project was a real fine piece of work. Secretary Herring thanked Mr. Authement and the Association. He then explained how the species selection was made and how the competition was held during the Taxidermist's Annual Convention. Secretary Herring then thanked Mr. Authement

and the Association for supplying the Department with the mounted specimens.

Before beginning the **Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season**, Chairman Gisclair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Nichols University for the use of the hall. Mr. Corky Perret stated he sincerely appreciated Nichols University's ~~for their~~ help in providing the auditorium. The discussion began with overheads of production landings from 1980 through 1994; production by month for 1994 as compared with 1993 production and to a mean for years 1987 through 1994; catch of shrimp in Louisiana; and shrimp gear license sales for 1976 through 1994.

Next, <sup>showed</sup> Mr. Perret presented the hydrological information. Graphs ~~shown~~ <sup>included</sup> rainfall for southeast Louisiana; amount of discharge for the Mississippi River system; monthly and daily salinity for the northern and southern Barataria Bay system; water temperatures, by month and daily, for the Barataria Bay system; brown shrimp nursery acres in April; and a map showing the monitoring sampling stations. The next set of graphs pertained to the catch of shrimp in test samples such as postlarval catch taken with a small mesh plankton net. This year, thus far, little recruitment has shown up in the samples due to minimum southeast winds and tides during March. Data from 6' trawl tests by numbers and mean size were shown as well as catch per effort in a ten minute test across the state. Tidal ranges and tidal factors for Barataria Pass for May and a map showing the three shrimp zones were shown. Then a chart for each zone was shown displaying when marketable size shrimp (100 count) would cross the 50 percent criteria line. Mr. Perret concluded, the exact dates when ~~the~~ shrimp would cross the 50 percent criteria line for Zone 1 would be May 19, Zone 2 would be May 18 and Zone 3 would be May 26. Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Perret to repeat the cross over dates <sup>asked</sup> and what were the Department's recommendations. The staff has recommended opening Zone 2 on May 15, Zone 1 on May 22 and May 29 for Zone 3. Chairman Gisclair then asked why have two different openings a week apart for a one day difference in the cross over criteria? Mr. Brandt Savoie stated the shrimp in Zone 1 hold in for a much longer period of time than the central portion of the state and may produce a larger shrimp. Chairman Gisclair then asked the public to comment on the options of a different opening for each zone or opening Zones 1 and 2 on May 15 and Zone 3 on May 29. He then stated there was <sup>were</sup> a lot of man-hours involved in preparing the presentation and thanked the staff for the presentation.

Mr. Gary Mouk, President of Gulf Coast Commercial Fisherman Organization, stated they met with one of the biologists and the organization requested opening no earlier than May 8th and no later than May 15th for Zone 2.

Mr. T-Roy Bourg, Leeville, asked to open the season on May 10th in order to have the majority of the moon.

Mr. Bruce Garrett, shrimper from Zone 1, began talking about the 1994 season and how it was <sup>opened</sup> ~~open~~ too late and he hoped the season this year would open early. He then stated if the season was not open on the right dates, businesses would shut down. He asked for May 15th for opening Zone 1. Commissioner Mialjevich and Chairman Gisclair again asked the audience to express their view on having three different openings or having Zones 1 and 2 open and then follow with Zone 3.

Mr. Frank Campo, Jr., member of United Commercial Fisherman's Organization, stated they wanted Zones 1 and 2 <sup>were</sup> opened on May 15th. He then stated the shrimp <sup>were</sup> ~~was~~ not staying in the area of Zone 1 like ~~it did~~ in years past because of the freshwater coming into Lake Pontchartrain.

Mayor Tim Kerner, Town of Jean Lafitte, presented a petition from the fishermen in his area to open Zone 2 on May 15th. He then asked the Commissioners not to go past May 15th with the opening date and explained why. Mayor Kerner stated if you open Zones 1 and 2 together, it would be better for all the fishermen.

Mr. Richard Cheramie stated, in ~~the~~ years past, by the time the season opened 75 percent of the shrimp had already left. He felt the season should open on May 8th. Mr. Cheramie then stated the season should be opened on May 15th for all three zones.

Mr. Gene Adams stated the area fishermen in Zone 2 petitioned for that area to open no later than May 15th, but would prefer an opening date of May 8th because of the moon.

Mr. Mark Tinney, Yscloskey, stated he wanted Zones 1 and 2 to open on May 15th.

lot Mr. J. St. Mart asked Mr. Brandt Savoie if any data was available on catch and landings in Week 18 for Zone 2? Mr. Savoie stated the samples showed smaller shrimp were moving in and the larger shrimp are moving into the bigger bays. Then Mr. St. Mart stated there were quite a ~~bit~~ of shrimp moving offshore now and that Zones 1 and 2 and possibly 3 should be opened on May 15th.

Mrs. JoAnn Toups asked to open Zones 1 and 2 on May 15th.

~~were~~ Mr. Brad Duet, Golden Meadow, stated the shrimp he was catching ~~was~~ running 80 to 100 count.

Mr. Bill Dekemel, East Bank Commercial Fisherman's Association, stated after looking at the data, the later an opening date the more production you have. He noted in Zone 1, there were no recruitments during the last few days of April. His

organization would not make a recommendation for Zones 2 and 3 but recommended opening Zone 1 on May 29th at 6:00 a.m.

Mr. John Chabert, an inside trawler, stated the shrimp are leaving now; and with the next moon, more shrimp would be leaving. He recommended opening the season before the moon on May 8th.

Mr. George Terrebonne, Seafood Shed, stated the moon would be full on the 14th of May and a lot would be moving three days before that. He recommended opening the season on May 8th.

An unidentified speaker stated his area to shrimp was from Lake Borgne and the Louisiana Marsh to the mouth of the Mississippi River and then asked to open his area early.

Mr. Frank Campo began by thanking the Commission for letting the public express their views and ~~thanked~~ for the extension on last year's season. He recommended opening Zones 1 and 2 on May 15th.

Commissioner Cormier asked Mr. Bill Dekemel why was he asking for May 29th when 84 percent of the shrimp would be over the 50 percent cross-over line. Mr. Dekemel stated his organization held a meeting and voted on a recommendation and that was the date he needed to ask the Commission to consider. He stated the recruitment was down and that if the season for Zone 1 was opened on May 15th, there would be a considerable loss to the crop of shrimp. Mr. Dekemel stated the Commission needed to listen to public input and put it with the biological information and come up with a compromise.

Mr. George Terrebonne stated if the season opened too late, a lot of shrimp would be brought in from the Gulf and the smaller boats would be hurt not only in the amount of available catch but also the price.

An unidentified speaker stated he wanted the season to be fair and that he could produce pictures of boats from Zone 1 going into Zone 2 and catching the smaller shrimp.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Gisclair called for a recess. After the recess, Chairman Gisclair asked the Commissioners if they had a recommendation? Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to open Zones 1 and 2 on May 15th at 6:00 a.m., and open Zone 3 on May 29th at 6:00 a.m. Commissioner Vujnovich seconded the motion and, passed with no opposition.

Chairman Gisclair asked about an opening date for the Territorial Waters? Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to open the Territorial waters on May 15th at 6:00 a.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. This motion also passed with no opposition. Mr. Brandt Savoie read the Resolution and Declaration

of Emergency into the record. Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency as amended. Commissioner Vujnovich seconded the motion and passed it unanimously.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

#### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS,** the traditional management criteria used by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in recommending the opening dates for the spring inshore shrimp season are based on the population of shrimp in each zone reaching such a size that 50% or more of the shrimp are 100 count per pound or larger, and

**WHEREAS,** current biological data show that at least 50% of the 1995 brown shrimp crop will meet the 100 count per pound management criteria in shrimp management Zone 1 by May 19, 1995, in Zone 2 by May 18, 1995 and in Zone 3 by May 26, 1995, and

**WHEREAS,** the staff has indicated that biological samples have shown that some of the larger shrimp in Zones 1 and 2 have begun moving into the larger bays, and

**WHEREAS,** the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a general policy sets the season to open on a Monday.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Commission hereby opens the spring inshore shrimp season in Zone 1 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995, in Zone 2 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995 and in Zone 3 at 6 a.m. May 29, 1995.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Commission hereby opens that portion of the State's Territorial Waters (outside waters) from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou, at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Commission hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any portion of Louisiana's inshore waters to protect small white shrimp.

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Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
La. Wildlife & Fisheries  
Commission

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Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Department of Wildlife &  
Fisheries

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season to open as follows:

Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the Mississippi State Line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, to open at 6 a.m., May 15, 1995; and

Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, to open at 6 a.m., May 15, 1995; and

Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m., May 29, 1995; and

Sets the opening of that portion of Louisiana's Territorial Waters (outside waters) from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel westward to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou at 6 a.m., May 15, 1995.

The Commission also hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any zone or portion of the State's waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

it Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay was presented by Mr. Brandt Savoie. Fishermen from the Vermilion Bay area requested this night shrimping closure in the Bay as well as the East and West Cote Blanche bays and was approved by the Commission last year for both the spring and fall seasons. A bill is in the Legislature this year to make this ban a permanent rule, but for the time being, a Declaration of Emergency was needed. Mr. Savoie read the Declaration of Emergency for the record.

Mr. Bill Dekemel asked Mr. Savoie to read the first paragraph of the Declaration of Emergency and then to explain what was the imminent peril? Mr. Savoie stated the Department was exempt from some rules when setting seasons through the Administrative Procedure Act. Mr. Dekemel felt this was pretty strong language for a few fishermen to stop a method of fishing, but then stated he did not mind it as long as it stayed in that one specific area.

Mr. Charlie Sanable, a fisherman in Vermilion Bay, thanked the Commission for closing the night shrimping last year because it improved the season.

Commissioner Mialjevich stated Senate Bill 409 by Senator Foster would take this emergency rule and make it a permanent rule. Then Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept the Declaration of Emergency and was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. This motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

##### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act and R.S. 56:6(25)a, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit shrimping between official sunset and official sunrise in the inside waters as described in R.S. 56:495 from the western side of the Atchafalaya River Channel out to Eugene Island to the western shore of Vermilion Bay, not to include Southwest Pass at Marsh Island south of a line drawn from the following points:

The western side of Southwest Pass at its northwestern point to the Green Light Channel Marker Number 9, at latitude 29°36'58" longitude 92°00'21", thence northeast to Green Light Channel Marker Number 1, at latitude 29°37'34" longitude 91°59'36", thence southeast to the eastern side of Big Charles Bayou, at latitude 29°36'54" longitude 91°59'00", thence southwesterly to the western shore of Big Charles Bayou, at latitude 29°36'50" longitude 91°59'12".

This rule shall be in effect for the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

Public Comments on **License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines** was the next item announced by Chairman Gisclair. An unidentified speaker stated everyone should be able to make a living and felt there should not be a moratorium.

Mr. Epstock from the south Lafourche area, stated he appreciates the moratorium. But he felt there should be another solution found that would allow other people to get their licenses. He also stated everyone should work together to get a system that would help ~~the~~ fishermen better. Commissioner Mialjevich stated the moratorium was only a tool to be used until a Limited Entry program could be implemented by the Legislature. Mr. Epstock stated he supported the moratorium as long as other fishermen have the chance to get into the industry.

Mr. Bill Dekemel stated the fishermen in his organization were against any kind of limited entry program if it was not based on biological information. He also said he was not willing to support anything that would not allow the right to fish and that the moratorium was wrong.

An unidentified speaker stated the moratorium should try to stop out-of-state fishermen from coming into Louisiana and the residents of Louisiana should be able to get a license.

Mr. Brad Duhe stated he had a gill net license in 1993 and asked, if the moratorium was passed, would he be allowed to get a license anymore? He felt all commercial fishermen should be allowed to get a license and was against the out-of-state fishermen ~~from~~ coming into Louisiana.

*PARISH* Chairman Gisclair then read into the record a letter from St. Bernard Government that supported the moratorium on saltwater finfish license sales for a three year period.

Public Comments on **1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations** began with Mr. Hugh Bateman reminding the Commissioners of their action on a Notice of Intent taken in March 1995. Commissioner Schneider asked about the changes on the black powder season and what were they changed from? Commissioner Carver stated he asked the Department to look at other options for the black powder season. Mr. Bateman stated the change would establish a statewide seven day uniform muzzleloader season that would begin on December 2 and run through December 8. Commissioner Carver then made a motion to have a statewide seven day muzzleloader for those specific dates. Chairman Gisclair asked if this change could be incorporated into the regulations? Commissioner Schneider asked when would the rule be ratified? Mr. Bateman stated July was when the final vote would be taken provided everything goes okay.

Commissioner Carver asked if the changes should be taken individually or as a group in July when final ratification occurred? He then withdrew his motion and stated he just wanted to provide an opportunity for that user-group to hunt days that they would not normally be able to hunt. Mr. Don Puckett stated the public could be notified of the change through a Press Release but that it did not require a motion.

Mr. Richard Dugas suggested having the hunting pamphlets available and in the hands of the hunters before the seasons open. He also suggested publishing the pamphlet once every five years and print only changes annually. The phone number for enforcement should be listed in the pamphlet so the public could call and ask questions stated Mr. Dugas.

Mr. Gary Ruth, from south Lafourche, stated he would rather see the limits raised for duck hunting and cut the length of the season.

Mr. Bateman replied to Mr. Dugas that the phone numbers for the district offices and the 1-800 number <sup>were</sup> listed in the pamphlets. The pamphlets are distributed to the Sheriff's Office and other retail outlets by the first week of September and this may affect only the first split of dove season. Then to Mr. Ruth, Mr. Bateman stated Louisiana hunters wanted the additional days instead of the additional duck.

An unidentified speaker stated he presented to the Commissioners a petition from landowners in Tangipahoa Parish who requested a still hunting season only. The area to be considered was three or four miles east of Wilmer off Highway 10.

Mr. Hugh Bateman then stated the setting of the turkey hunting seasons would be handled separately from the other hunting seasons and would go through the same Administrative Procedure Act process as these regulations go through. A separate pamphlet for the turkey season would be produced. The available data for setting the seasons would help the staff make a better and more technical recommendation for the next season. He then asked the Commission to agree with the staff in withdrawing the turkey information from the hunting pamphlet and bring another set of recommendations maybe in June or July. Chairman Gisclair stated this would be a step in the right direction and asked if it was the consensus of the Commission to go ahead and withdraw the turkey season information. Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to remove the turkey information from the pamphlet and discuss it in June or July. Commissioner Carver seconded the motion and passed with no opposition. <sup>ix</sup>

The next item to be discussed was the Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent Establishing Crawfish Rules and Regulations, Sherburne WMA. Mr. Tommy Prickett stated the rules were to

regulate crawfishing on one small portion of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. He then asked Mr. Dave Morrison to explain the on-going project on Sherburne. Mr. Morrison stated one of the primary objectives of the project was to protect a wetland development project. The project was planned for the southeastern portion of Sherburne WMA near Ramah and I-10 and would include approximately 2,400 acres. Exxon Corporation, Ducks Unlimited, Corps of Engineers, the Department and a Grant have contributed to making this project a success. Mr. Morrison explained how the North Farm and South Farm portion of Sherburne would be used. Hopefully, the project would prove to be beneficial for wetlands and waterfowl concluded Mr. Morrison. Mr. Prickett stated the reason for the Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent was to protect the waterfowl project and reforestation activities. He then explained how the permit would work, cost of the permit, the season dates and the conditions for getting into the areas for crawfishing. Chairman Gisclair asked how much commercial fishing was in that area now, would there be a limit on the number of traps used and about the \$50 administrative fee. Commissioner Carver asked if this was going to be a lagniappe situation? Commissioner Mialjevich asked how would the Department keep track of the recreational harvesters on the property, why was the administrative fee being charged to the commercial fishermen and not the recreational fishermen and how does the permittee's helper work? Mr. Prickett asked the Commission to adopt a resolution that would begin the process for the Notice of Intent and enact the Declaration of Emergency. He read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution and noted Mr. Puckett advised adding Section 56:761 in the Authority Note. Commissioner Cormier made a motion to accept the Resolution, Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent. Commissioner Carver seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

#### RESOLUTION

##### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

- WHEREAS,** the Department is responsible for both the management of the wildlife resources and habitats and providing opportunities for the citizens of Louisiana to enjoy these resources on the Department's Wildlife Management Areas, and
- WHEREAS,** there are times that wildlife management and public use are incompatible, and

**WHEREAS,** the Department has planned a unique and important wetland project on the agricultural lands associated with Sherburne WMA, and

**WHEREAS,** this Department is being assisted financially with this project by Ducks Unlimited and Exxon Corporation, and

**WHEREAS,** unrestricted crawfishing on this portion of Sherburne WMA will negatively impact this important project, and

**WHEREAS,** the Department does not desire to completely restrict recreational or commercial crawfishing activities on these agricultural lands, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached rules governing crawfishing activities on Sherburne WMA by Declaration of Emergency, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a Notice of Intent is also being submitted in order to establish a permanent rule concerning this issue through the Administrative Procedure Act.

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Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
La. Wildlife & Fisheries  
Commission

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Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Department of Wildlife &  
Fisheries

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:109 and R.S. 56:761, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

**Title 76**

**WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

**Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life**

**Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing**

**§177. Crawfishing on Agricultural Lands Within Sherburne WMA**

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in

fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the Wildlife Management Area, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife;
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts;
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features;
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a Wild Louisiana Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Violation of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1 to July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (contact the Opelousas office for the appropriate maps).

South Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfish harvesting permitted from April 1 to July 31 (contact the Opelousas office for the appropriate maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_  
Description: Contact the Opelousas office for appropriate maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Wild Louisiana Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.
- 7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.
- 8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational  
\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority Note: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:109 and R.S. 56:761.

Historical Note: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 21: .

The Commission finds crawfishing similar to that experienced in 1994 will negatively impact reforestation efforts, cause user conflicts and disturb wildlife. It is also possible that the loss of a valuable timber resource might occur. This Declaration of Emergency will provide for both commercial and recreational crawfishing without negatively impacting wildlife or timber resources. The Commission will take the necessary steps to establish permanent rules for crawfishing on this property by means of normal rule making processes.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

#### 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 promulgate a rule governing both recreational and commercial crawfishing on agricultural lands within the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

#### Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

#### §177. Crawfishing on Agricultural Lands Within Sherburne WMA

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the Wildlife Management Area, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife;
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts;
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features;

4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a Wild Louisiana Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Violation of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1 to July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (contact the Opelousas office for maps).

South Farm: Acreage on this farm totals 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfish harvesting permitted from April 1 to July 31 (contact the Opelousas office for maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_  
Description: Contact the Opelousas office for maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Wild Louisiana Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.
- 7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.
- 8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational  
\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority Note: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:109 and 56:761.

Historical Note: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 21: .

Interested parties may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m., July 5, 1995 to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898.

*Acquisition of* Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

The Nature Conservancy Acquisition was to inform the Commission of a piece of property for public use and protection stated Mr. Hugh Bateman. He then thanked the Nature Conservancy

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for making 420 acres available to the Department which would be included in the Tunica Hills Wildlife Management Area. The additional acreage would open the area for wider range of public use and would be protected by the Department and the Natural Registry System. Chairman Gisclair asked what was the total acreage for the Wildlife Management Area?

**Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent to Close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to Black Bass Fishing** was presented by Mr. Arthur Williams. The Reservoir ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> a new lake recently stocked with 100 adult Florida largemouth bass. The rule would protect the fish for two years. Chairman Gisclair asked if there was any effort to weed out fish already in the lake or was the lake being created for a trophy lake? Commissioner Mialjevich asked what kind of wild fish are in the lake now? Commissioner Carver asked if the lake has been fished between the stocking of the adult bass and the date of this presentation, if some of the stocked bass could have been removed already, and what was the size of the stocked bass? Commissioner Mialjevich asked if there would be ample notice of this closure? Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept the Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich and passed with no opposition.

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

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in order to ensure and accelerate the establishment of black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish, do hereby enact the following emergency rule:

Effective May 4, 1995, it shall be unlawful to retain or possess black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has recently (March 23, 1995) stocked 100 adult black bass broodstock of the Florida strain into John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish). This stocking was made pre-spawn in an effort to introduce Florida bass genes into the reservoir at the time of impoundment. This closure will assure that the fish remain in the reservoir for at least two spawning seasons. The failure to immediately close the reservoir to the retention or possession of black bass constitutes

an imminent peril to the public welfare as this will result in substantial losses to the Florida black bass broodstock.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby advertises its intent to establish a rule for possession of black bass in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§179. Black Bass Regulations - John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir

It shall be unlawful to retain or possess black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish. This rule will expire at midnight, May 31, 1997.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Mr. Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr., Administrator, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 5, 1995.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

Rule Ratification for Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations on Eagle Lake was also presented by Mr. Arthur Williams. He stated that a Notice of Intent was presented in November to put a 14 inch minimum length limit on largemouth bass in Eagle Lake. This was requested by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife and Parks who manages the lake and ratification was being requested. Commissioner Mialjevich asked what would happen at midnight on April 2, 1996? could any legal size bass be caught? Mr. Williams read the Rule into the record. Commissioner Carver asked if this

rule was for only one year and what was the size limit? He then made a motion to accept the Rule and was seconded by Commissioner Mialjevich. The motion passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Rule is made a part of the record.)

#### RULE

#### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby amends the following rule on black bass (Micropterus spp.) on Eagle Lake located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

#### Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

#### §169. Black Bass Regulations, Eagle Lake

The size regulation for black bass (Micropterus spp.) on Eagle Lake located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana is as follows:

It shall be unlawful to take or possess, while on the water or while fishing in the water, black bass less than 14 inches total length on Eagle Lake, located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana. This rule will expire at midnight, April 2, 1996.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 (25)(a), 325(C), 326.3.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 19:909 (July 1993); amended LR 21: (May 1995).

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

*He* A Notice of Intent for Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area was the final item presented by Mr. Arthur Williams. The current rule was set to expire in October 1995 and requested the Commission approve the Notice of Intent to extend the 14 inch minimum for two more years. Chairman Gisclair asked if Mr. Williams had received any comments opposing this Intent? Mr. Williams stated the Department has received 16

letters and a petition with 490 signatures for the extension and a petition with 418 signatures and 5 letters opposing the extension. Commissioner Schneider asked about the testimony received during April? Commissioner Mialjevich asked what was the primary opposition? Chairman Gisclair asked for background information on the present rule and the requested extension. Mr. Williams stated a 14 inch minimum on largemouth bass was set after Hurricane Andrew came through the Atchafalaya Basin and Lake Verret areas. The efforts have been very successful in the recovery. Along the way, the staff has discovered a phenomenal growth rate in the Basin and they wanted the chance to obtain more data on this situation. Commissioner Schneider asked if this was a once in a lifetime opportunity? Commissioner Carver asked what was the contributing factor to the rapid growth rate, and what was the average length of the first year spawn? Then he asked if there were plenty of bass now over 14 inches available for catch? Commissioner Mialjevich asked, with the sampling being done, what is the percent of bass over and under 14 inches, and when would the next samples be taken? Mr. Williams stated the Department wanted to begin the procedure to extend the minimum size limit so there would not be a gap in the data being obtained. Commissioner Carver stated, biologically speaking, this is a very unusual opportunity and additional time was needed to find out what was happening in the Basin. He then asked if the Florida strain bass were stocked in the Basin. Chairman Gisclair then asked for public comments.

Mr. Warren Sheets stated his camp was not in the Basin and this area had an entirely different ecosystem from the Basin. He also stated he was tired of regulations for special interest groups and wanted the minimum size limit taken off. Again he stated his area was different from the Basin and did not receive the flood waters that occur in the Basin. Commissioner Carver stated he thought that the Commission was trying to go along with the staff.

Mr. Max Freeman, a camp owner at Belle River, began asking when would the regulations be over? The only group that has an interest in this regulation was ~~the~~ tournament bass fishermen and there are a lot of individual fishermen that are tired of the regulations. Mr. Freeman felt a 14 inch fish was a good sized fish to keep. He suggested looking at the whole state to find out what the people want and not just what the bass clubs want. Commissioner Carver stated the Commission's job was to protect the resources and biologically speaking, a 14 inch limit was not unreasonable. He felt the recommendations from the biologists was to protect the resources for future generations.

Mr. Wayne Allemond, Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs, stated the members of the Association voted in favor of the 14 inch extension. He stated fish develop through management and if this extension would allow the Department to study the bass in the Basin, which is a unique area, then it should be done for two additional years.

Mr. Pat Richardson, Louisiana Bass Hatchery, stated his organization strongly endorses the request to extend the 14 inch minimum size in the Lake Verret-Atchafalaya Basin area. There was no question there are plenty of fish in the Basin now but the decisions to be made are based on the management of the resources. Mr. Richardson felt the extension of the minimum length limit for two years would enable the staff to accumulate data to make the right decisions to manage the resources in the different ecosystems of the Basin. Commissioner Mialjevich asked Mr. Richardson to elaborate on what the management of the resources properly was, was it to be managed for abundance, size limit, or creel limit? Mr. Richardson responded the proper tool or tools was not yet known to properly manage the Basin so there would be an abundance of fish for years to come. Chairman Gisclair stated the storm killed a lot of fish and everyone should be complimented on returning the different stocks.

Commissioner Cormier stated to Mr. Sheets and Mr. Freeman the resource being discussed was a recreational resource and that the special interest groups are recreationally based. The point that needed to be addressed was the enhancement of the recreational resources, stated Commissioner Cormier. Then he stated he needed to look at the actual resources and that he can understand their feelings of maybe being on the minority side. Mr. Sheets stated he has fished both sides for 30 years but the area where his camp is has an entirely different ecosystem.

Mr. Aubry Hamilton, past president of Louisiana Association of Bass Clubs, explained how members of that organization helped in the restocking of the Basin. He then stated the Association has imposed a minimum length limit for tournaments for the past 25 years and the tournaments are 100 percent catch and release. Mr. Hamilton stated they were behind the extension 100 percent in order to get the Basin to the way it was 30 years ago. Commissioner Cormier commended Mr. Hamilton and his association for the contribution to the resource and stated the Commission could not be one sided when making a decision.

Mr. Max Freeman stated the chances of a bass dying are greater when implementing a catch and release program. There are no records kept stating how many fish would live after releasing fish following a tournament. Mr. Williams stated this type of study was done on Lake Bistineau with very little mortality. The results of a study from Auburn University showed it was hard to kill a bass if that fish was handled properly.

Commissioner Carver asked Mr. Williams what spring would have the first spawn since the stocking began in the Basin; when would the fish from the first year spawn reach the 14 inch minimum length; and why was the requested rule being extended to 1997 instead of 1996.

Mr. Sid Sanders, CPR Spillway, explained some of the uniqueness of the Atchafalaya Basin such as a declining fish base due to the number of fishermen in the area, and the shrinking of the Basin. He felt the decline in population was because there were too many people fishing in the area. He concluded saying he was in support of the recommendation to maintain the 14 inch minimum for two more years.

Mr. Joe Treffert stated he found it hard to land four or five bass on his fishing trips before Hurricane Andrew. But since the restocking and the 14 inch limit, things have changed for the better. He noted he was in favor of the 14 inch length limit.

Mr. Jay Hanneman stated the Commissioners job was to protect the resources for future generations and that the management of the fish was for him and his children to enjoy. He felt the 14 inch limit would be good for the Basin. Commissioner Mialjevich asked Mr. Williams if the creel limit was 10 fish with a 14 inch minimum?

An unidentified speaker stated he has seen the fish population decline before Hurricane Andrew and felt the 14 inch limit was a factor that helped with the recovery of the bass. He then asked for the 14 inch limit to continue for another two years.

Mr. Arthur Williams stated if the 14 inch limit was not continued, the bass population would not be devastated but would return to pre-Hurricane conditions. The Department would like to see if the high numbers of bass could be maintained. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the bass population could be maintained at 12 inches or 13 inches?

Ms. Stephanie Scarborough stated she and her family has enjoyed fishing in the Basin this past year and would like to see the 14 inch limit continue for another two years.

Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Williams to read the Notice of Intent for the record.

Mr. Dan Brabham indicated a few contradictions that were said by previous speakers about the best size for bass to spawn. He felt the situation to be considered was not whether the resource was threatened but a matter of what should be done with the fish. He asked why would the Department want to see if fish less than 14 inches could be moved to over 14 inch fish and why would there be a need for large fish in the Basin? Mr. Brabham suggested the Department do a scientific survey to find out exactly what the people of Louisiana want. Commissioner Carver commented the Department was not managing for big bass but protecting the age group that are the major spawners in order to maintain the populations. He then restated the Department's position in trying to determine if quality fish could be maintained in high numbers. Commissioner Carver asked a question for thought, if the Basin does

maintain high populations of fish above the 14 inch fish, does anyone know how many tourist dollars would be spent in the area? Chairman Gisclair reminded Mr. Brabham this process would take 120 days for the rule to be ratified and invited everyone to comment during this time. Mr. Brabham then stated another random survey should be done asking what the people want and requested not extending the 14 inch minimum.

Mr. Ernie Gammon, CPR Spillway and Black Bass Advisory Council, stated the mortality rate for bass stocked was less than one-half of one percent and that over 95 percent of the bass fishermen interviewed in the Basin want to see some type of bass management continued. The Black Bass Advisory Council supports the Department's recommendation to continue the 14 inch limit. Mr. Gammon then read into the record a letter from the Baton Rouge Sportsman's League supporting the 14 inch extension. Also, Dr. Fred Bryan asked Mr. Gammon to relay his support for the Department's recommendation.

Mr. Richard Dugas stated he was in support of the 14 inch minimum limit. Then he complimented the Wildlife and Fisheries staff for the job they did.

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Carver made a motion to accept the Notice of Intent and was seconded by Commissioner Cormier. The motion passed with opposition from Commissioner Mialjevich.

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

#### NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby advertises its intent to amend a rule for black bass size regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin and the Lake Verret Area.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

#### Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

#### §165. Black Bass Regulations - Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area

It shall be unlawful to take or possess, while on the water or while fishing in the water, black bass less than 14 inches in total length in the area south of U.S. 190 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to the intersection of LA 1 and U.S. 190 due north of Port Allen, east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee from U.S. 190 to U.S. 90, north of U.S. 90 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to LA 20, north and west of LA 20 from U.S. 90 to LA 1 in Thibodaux, south and west of LA 1 from LA 20 to U.S. 190. This rule will expire at midnight, September 30, 1997.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:326.3 and 325 C.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 19:361 (March 1993), amended LR 21:

Interested persons may submit written comments on the amended rule to Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr, Administrator, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 no later than 4:30 PM, Wednesday, July 5, 1995.

Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

**National Fishing Week Resolution** was presented by Mr. Paul Jackson. This resolution was similar to the ones passed by the Commission for the past six or seven years. He then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Cormier made a motion to accept the Resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. The motion passed with no opposition.

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

#### RESOLUTION

#### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

**WHEREAS,** sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

**WHEREAS,** sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

**WHEREAS,** the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and

**WHEREAS,** Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

**WHEREAS,** Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 5-11, 1995 as

**FISHING WEEK**

in the State of Louisiana, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that June 10 and 11, 1995 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

DATE: May 4, 1995

\_\_\_\_\_  
Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glynn Carver  
Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. "Jeff" Schneider

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph B. Cormier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Vujnovich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tee John Mialjevich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerald Hanchey

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe L. Herring, Secretary

**Recognition for Louisiana's Outstanding Work in Wetlands Conservation** began with Secretary Herring announcing the Department was presented with a plaque for the Outstanding State in the nation for wetlands work. For the last three national or international meetings attended by Secretary Herring, he also noted Louisiana has received an award for the work done.

Chairman Gisclair asked Mr. Don Puckett to explain the three proposals on the **Amendment of By-Laws**. The first proposal was to change the month for the election of officers from December to January. The second proposal would not allow the Chairman to

succeed himself, but the Vice-Chairman could succeed himself. The last proposal relates to the agenda and order of business in that if a Commissioner wants an item on the agenda, it should be put on ~~there~~ except if it was outside the constitutional or statutory authority or if it was inappropriate to be considered at the meeting requested. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if this last proposal would apply to items that would be for discussion or for vote or both? Commissioner Cormier asked if it was not true the By-Laws were set up ~~the way there are~~ so a new Commission member could have a year to evaluate the other members before having to vote in December? Then he asked why would the Commission want to vote for officers in January? Commissioner Carver answered to Commissioner Cormier so that an out-going member could not influence the election for the coming year. Commissioner Cormier stated he felt there was not a need to change. Then discussion between Commissioner Cormier and Commissioner Carver continued on this proposal. On the second proposal, Commissioner Cormier asked why not allow the Chairman to succeed himself if he has done an adequate job for that year? Chairman Gisclair commented that limiting the Chairman to one year would allow for a ~~more~~ cross section and more people could serve as Chairman. Chairman Gisclair then asked the Commissioners not to consider Option B for the last proposal. Commissioner Schneider reminded all that this next January there would be two new members coming on board. Commissioner Carver asked why not have the Election of Officers in June or July since it would allow everyone six months to evaluate their fellow members? Commissioner Cormier requested taking each proposal separately. Mr. Puckett suggested taking each proposal in order. Commissioner Mialjevich asked, on the third proposal, if he suggested an item for the agenda, would that item be placed or could the Chairman decide to take it off?

Chairman Gisclair then asked for a motion on the first proposal, the Election of Officers to be held in January instead of December. Commissioner Carver made a motion to accept the first proposal and was seconded by Commissioner Mialjevich. The motion passed with Commissioners Cormier and Schneider opposing. Chairman Gisclair then asked for a motion on the second proposal, the Chairman not succeeding himself. Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to accept and was seconded by Commissioner Carver. The motion passed with opposition from Commissioner Cormier and Commissioner Schneider abstaining. The last proposal, Option A was the next item to be voted on stated Chairman Gisclair. Commissioner Schneider made a motion to accept Option A for the third proposal. This was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich and passed with no opposition.

**A Discussion of Rulemaking Procedures for Information Only** was handled by Mr. Don Puckett. A booklet on rulemaking was developed mainly for use by the Division Administrators and right now the booklet was being updated to meet some changes in the law. The main reason for the discussion at the meeting was to obtain the

Commission's concurrence on allowing rules not controversial in nature <sup>to</sup> be delegated <sup>to</sup> by the Secretary to ratify. Mr. Puckett this procedure would possibly save a month's time in the rulemaking process. However, if a Commission member asked the item be placed on the agenda or if there was a change in the language, then the rule would be brought back before the Commission for final ratification. Commissioner Schneider asked if there could be a process that would remind the Commissioners of when a rule would be ratified. Commissioner Cormier asked if this was being proposed to minimize paperwork and would it interfere with the public being allowed to comment? Commissioner Mialjevich asked Mr. Puckett if he needed to write a resolution and have the Commissioners vote on it <sup>At</sup> the next meeting? Then he stated the public was not aware the Commission would be voting on this item. Commissioner Schneider suggested Mr. Puckett write a resolution for the Commission to vote on at the next meeting.

The Commissioners voted to hold the **August 1995 Meeting** on Thursday, August 3, 1995 in the Buras Auditorium or Empire Citizen Club area, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Then they voted to hold the **September 1995 Meeting** on Thursday, September 7, 1995 in the Baton Rouge office, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Gisclair then asked for **Public Comments**. He stated he had a letter from the Delta Commercial Fisherman's Association that he wanted placed in the Commission Meeting file.

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

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Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

JLH:sch

RESOLUTION

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Department is responsible for both the management of the wildlife resources and habitats and providing opportunities for the citizens of Louisiana to enjoy these resources on the Department's Wildlife Management Areas, and

WHEREAS, there are times that wildlife management and public use are incompatible, and

WHEREAS, the Department has planned a unique and important wetland project on the agricultural lands associated with Sherburne WMA, and

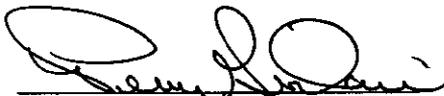
WHEREAS, this Department is being assisted financially with this project by Ducks Unlimited and Exxon Corporation, and

WHEREAS, unrestricted crawfishing on this portion of Sherburne WMA will negatively impact this important project, and

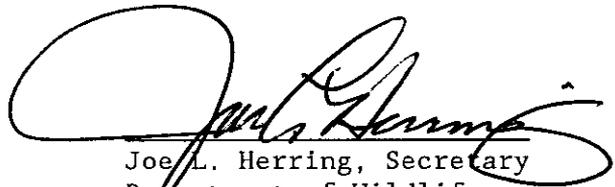
WHEREAS, the Department does not desire to completely restrict recreational or commercial crawfishing activities on these agricultural lands, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached rules governing crawfishing activities on Sherburne WMA by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Notice of Intent is also being submitted in order to establish a permanent rule concerning this issue through the Administrative Procedure Act.



Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commission



Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
Department of Wildlife  
and Fisheries

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R. S. 56:109, the <sup>and RS</sup> Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule: 56:761

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the WMA, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife.
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts.
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features.
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a La. Wild Stamp. Recreational harvesters are

limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset. Violations of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm:

Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor.

The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1-July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

South Farm:

Acreage on this farm total 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed  
in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only,  
crawfishing harvesting permitted from April 1-July 31 (Contact the  
Opelousas office for maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

Description: Contact the Opelousas office for maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hours before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Louisiana Wild Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.

7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.

8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational

\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial

Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Commission finds crawfishing similar to that experienced in 1994 will negatively impact reforestation efforts, cause user conflicts and disturb wildlife. It is also possible that the loss of a valuable timber resource might occur. This Declaration of Emergency will provide for both commercial and recreational crawfishing without negatively impacting wildlife or timber resources. The Commission will take the necessary steps to establish permanent rules for crawfishing on this property by means of normal rule making processes.

Perry Gisclair

Chairman

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 promulgate a rule governing both recreational and commercial crawfishing on agricultural lands within the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.

Title 76  
Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life.

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing.

Section 177. Crawfishing on agricultural lands within Sherburne WMA.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the WMA, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife.
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts.
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features.
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish

recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a La. Wild Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset. Violations of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm:

Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1-July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

South Farm:

Acreage on this farm total 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be

allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfishing harvesting permitted from April 1-July 31 (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

Description: Contact the Opelousas office for maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hours before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Louisiana Wild Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.
- 7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special

regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.

8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational

\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial

Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:109.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR21 : ( ).

Perry Gisclair

Chairman

Interested parties may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m. August 4, 1995 to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the traditional management criteria used by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in recommending the opening dates for the spring inshore shrimp season are based on the population of shrimp in each zone reaching such a size that 50% or more of the shrimp are 100 count per pound or larger, and

WHEREAS, current biological data show that at least 50% of the 1995 brown shrimp crop will meet the 100 count per pound management criteria in shrimp management Zone 1 by May 19, 1995, in Zone 2 by May 18, 1995 and in Zone 3 by May 26, 1995, and

★  
WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a general policy sets the season to open on a Monday.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby opens the spring inshore shrimp season in Zone 1 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995, Zone 2 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995 and in Zone 3 at 6 a.m. May 29, 1995.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby opens that portion of the State's Territorial Waters (from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou, at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995. (outside waters)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any portion of Louisiana's inshore waters to protect small white shrimp.

  
Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
La. Wildlife & Fisheries  
Commission

  
Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Department of Wildlife &  
Fisheries

★ Whereas, the staff has indicated that biological samples have shown that some of the larger shrimp in zones 1 + 2 have begun moving into the larger bays, and

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedures Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season to open as follows:

Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the Mississippi State line to the eastern shore of South pass of the Mississippi River, to open at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995, and

Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to the western shore of Vermillion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, to open at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995, and

Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the western shore of Vermillion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m. May 29, 1995, and

Sets the opening of <sup>that</sup> portion of Louisiana's Territorial Waters <sup>(outside waters)</sup> from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel westward to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou, at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995.

The Commission also hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any zone or portion of the State's waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS, sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS, the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and

WHEREAS, Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS, Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

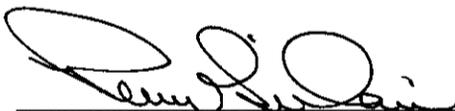
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 5-11, 1995 as

FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June 10 and 11, 1995 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

DATE: May 4, 1995



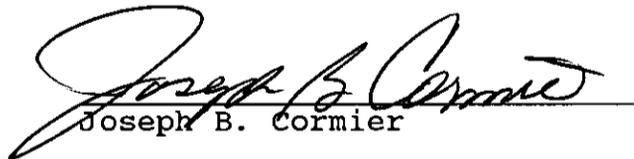
Perry Giselair  
Chairman



Glynn Carver  
Vice-Chairman



John F. "Jeff" Schneider



Joseph B. Cormier



Peter Vujnovich



Tee John Mialjevich

Jerald Hanchey



Joe L. Herring, Secretary

AGENDA

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION  
THIBODAUX, LA  
May 4, 1995  
10:00 AM

- ✓ 1. Roll Call
- ✓ 2. Approval of Minutes of March 2, 1995
- ✓ 3. Louisiana Bass Hatchery Presentation of Dow Chemical Co. Sign Cooperation Between State, Industries and Volunteers - L. J. Nastasi
- ✓ 4. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association
- ✓ 5. Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season - Corky Perret
- ✓ 6. Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay - Corky Perret
- ✓ 7. Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines
- ✓ 8. Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations - Hugh Bateman
- ✓ 9. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent Establishing Crawfish Rules and Regulations, Sherburne WMA - Tommy Prickett
- ✓ 10. The Nature Conservancy Acquisition - Robert Love
- ✓ 11. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent to Close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to Black Bass Fishing - Bennie Fontenot
- ✓ 12. Rule Ratification - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations on Eagle Lake - Bennie Fontenot
- ✓ 13. Notice of Intent - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area - Bennie Fontenot
- ✓ 14. National Fishing Week Resolution - Bob Dennie/Paul Jackson
- ✓ 15. Recognition for Louisiana's Outstanding Work in Wetlands Conservation - Joe Herring
- ✓ 16. Amendment of By-Laws

- ✓ 17. Discussion of Rulemaking Procedures (Information Only) -  
Don Puckett
- ✓ 18. Set August & September 1995 Meeting Date
19. Public Comments
20. Adjourn

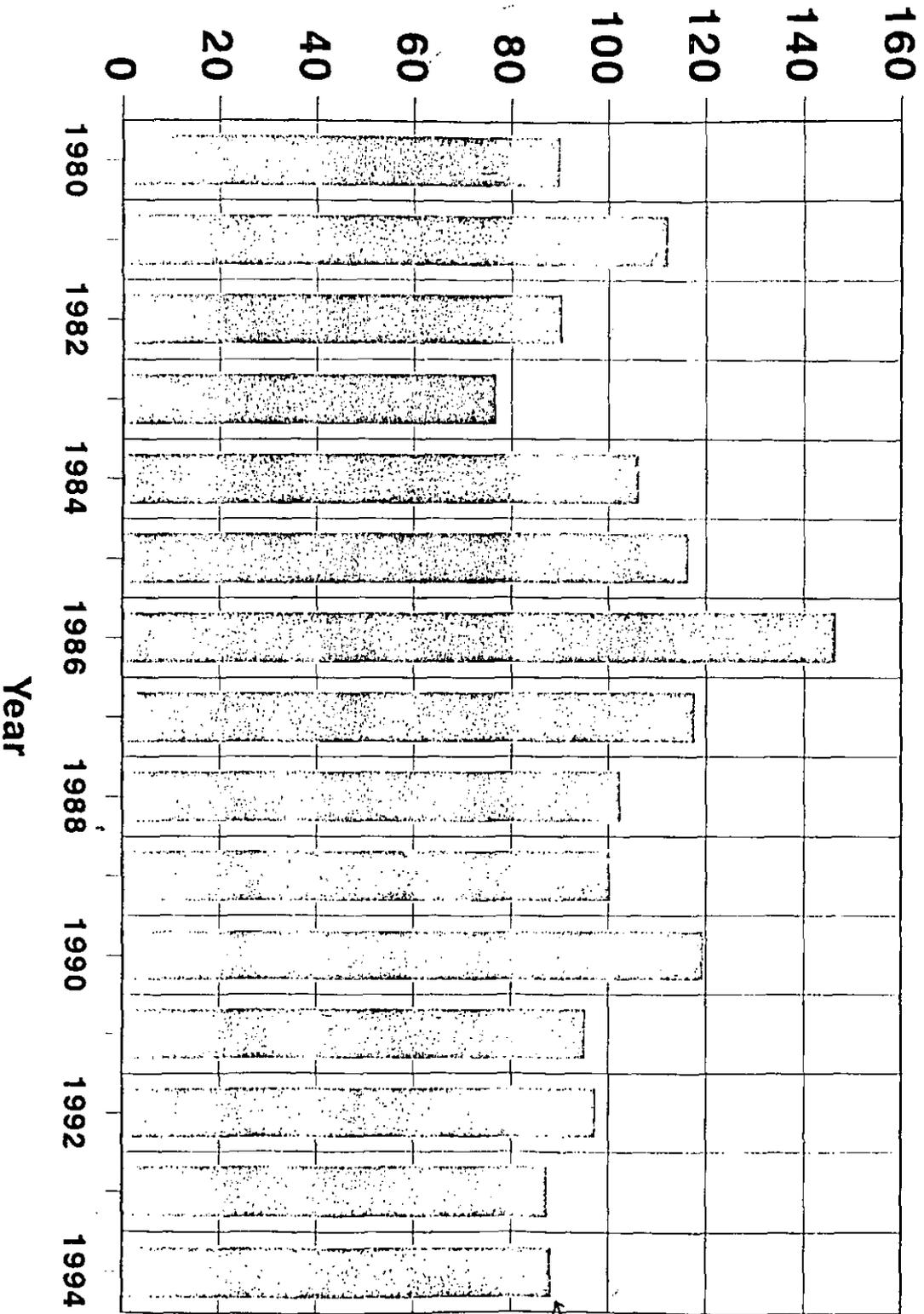
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
MARINE FISHERIES DIVISION



ANNUAL SPRING SHRIMP PRESENTATION  
MAY, 1995

# Louisiana Shrimp Landings

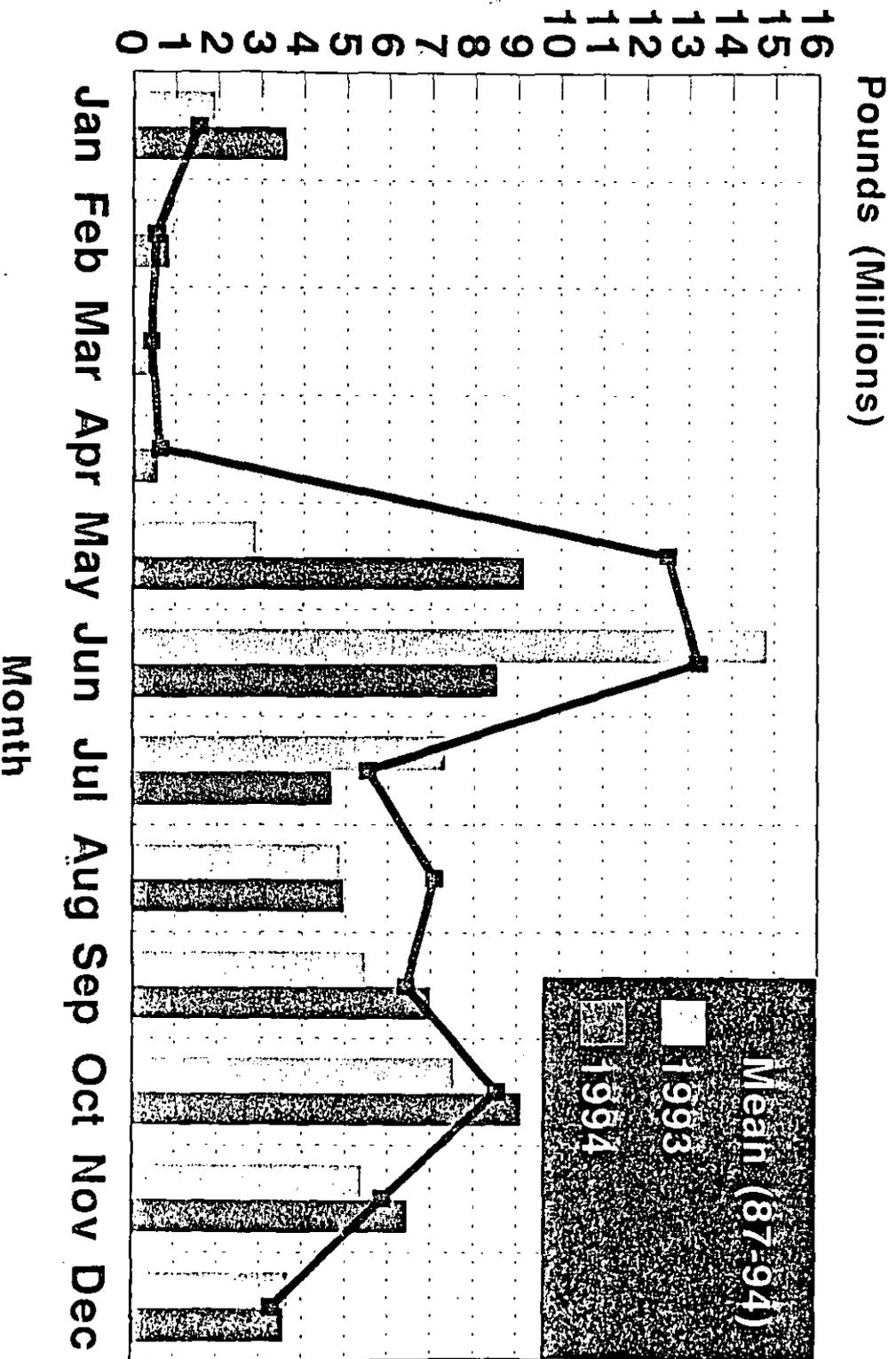
(Live Weight/Heads-on)



Source: NMFS

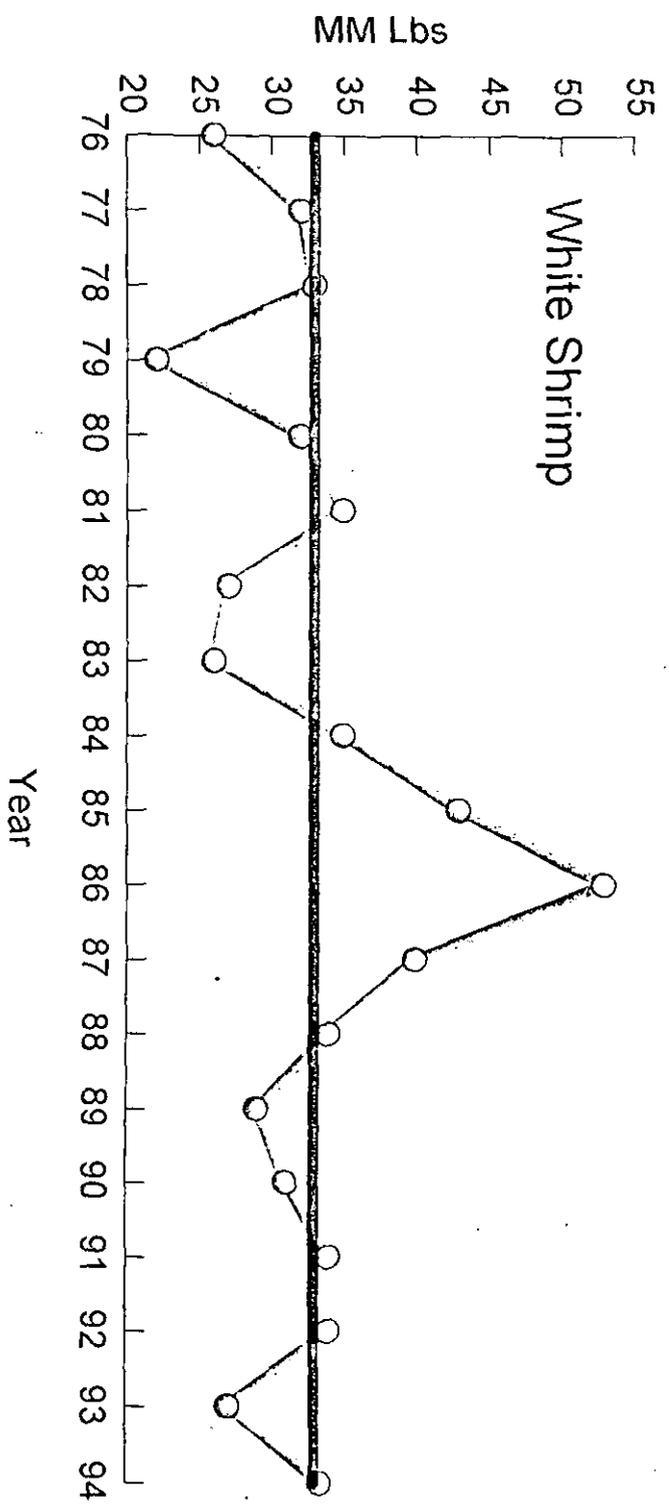
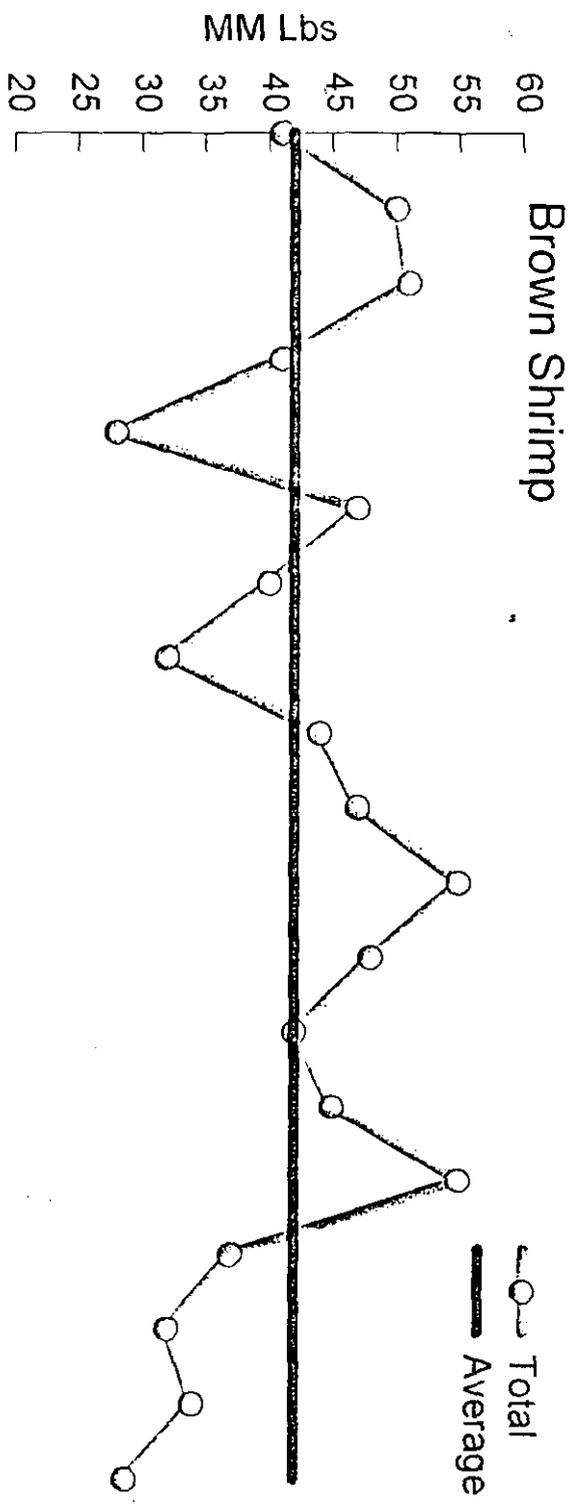
# Louisiana Landings

(Heads-Off)

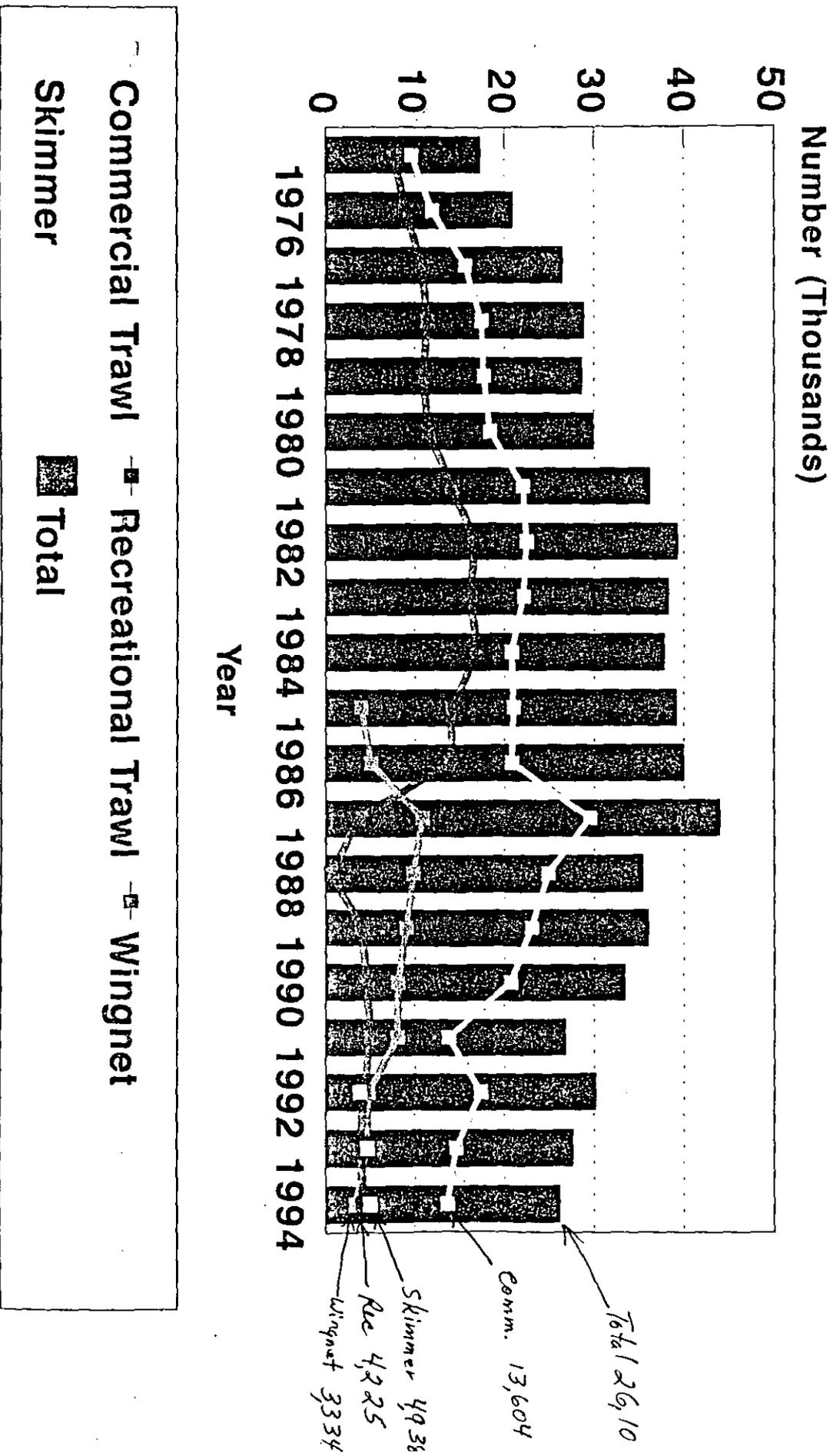


# Louisiana Shrimp Catch

(Heads Off)

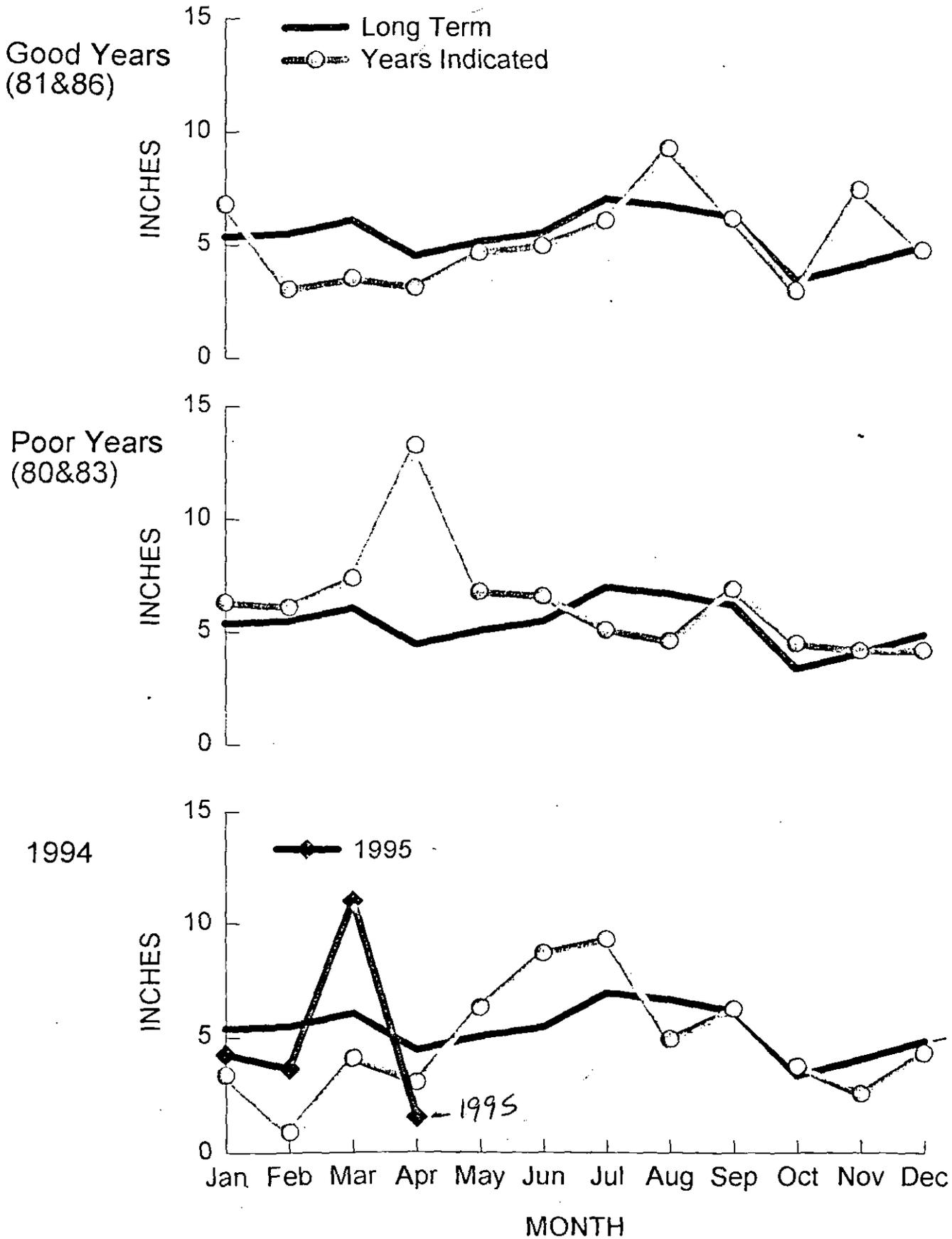


# Louisiana Shrimp Gear License Sales by Year

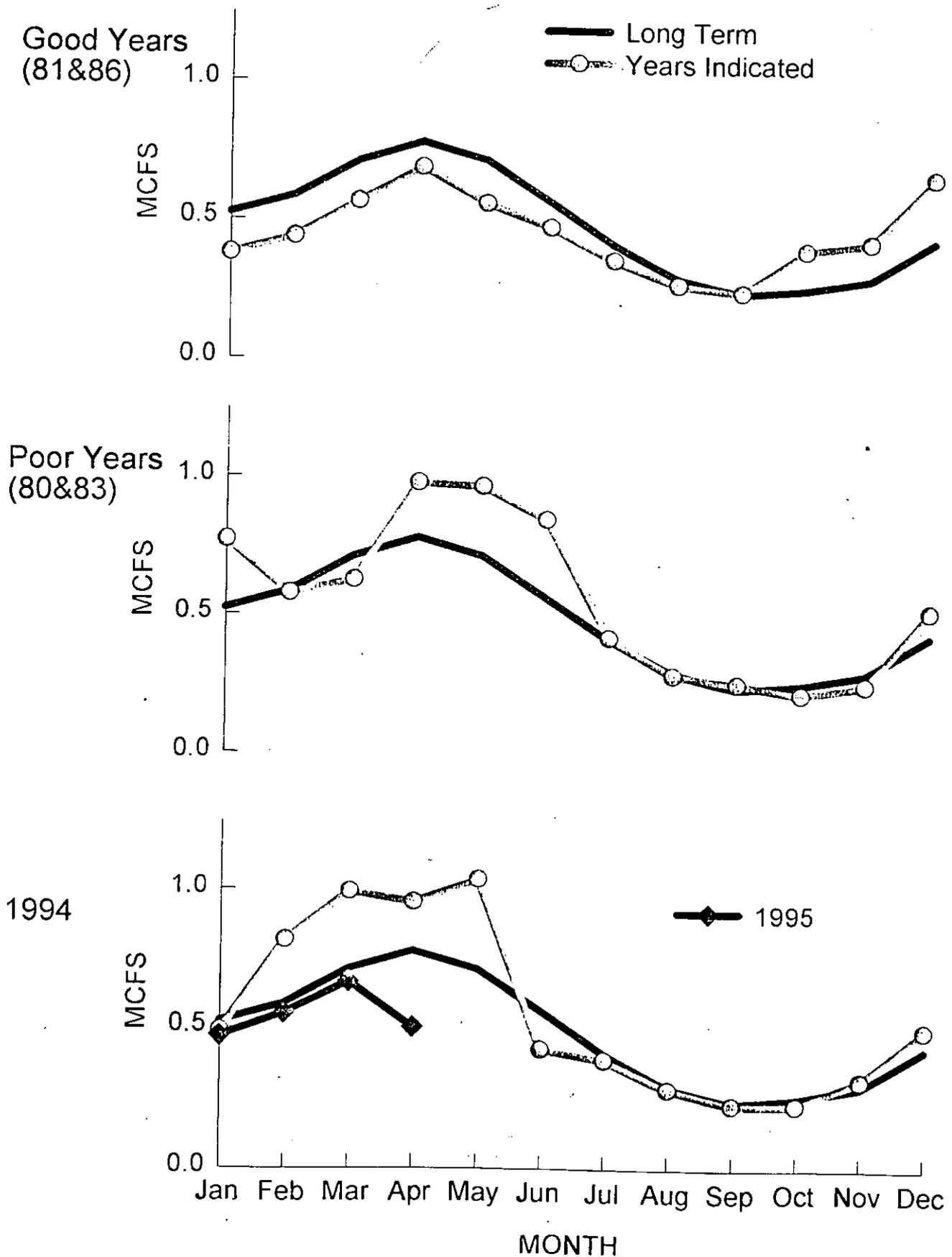


Source: LDWF

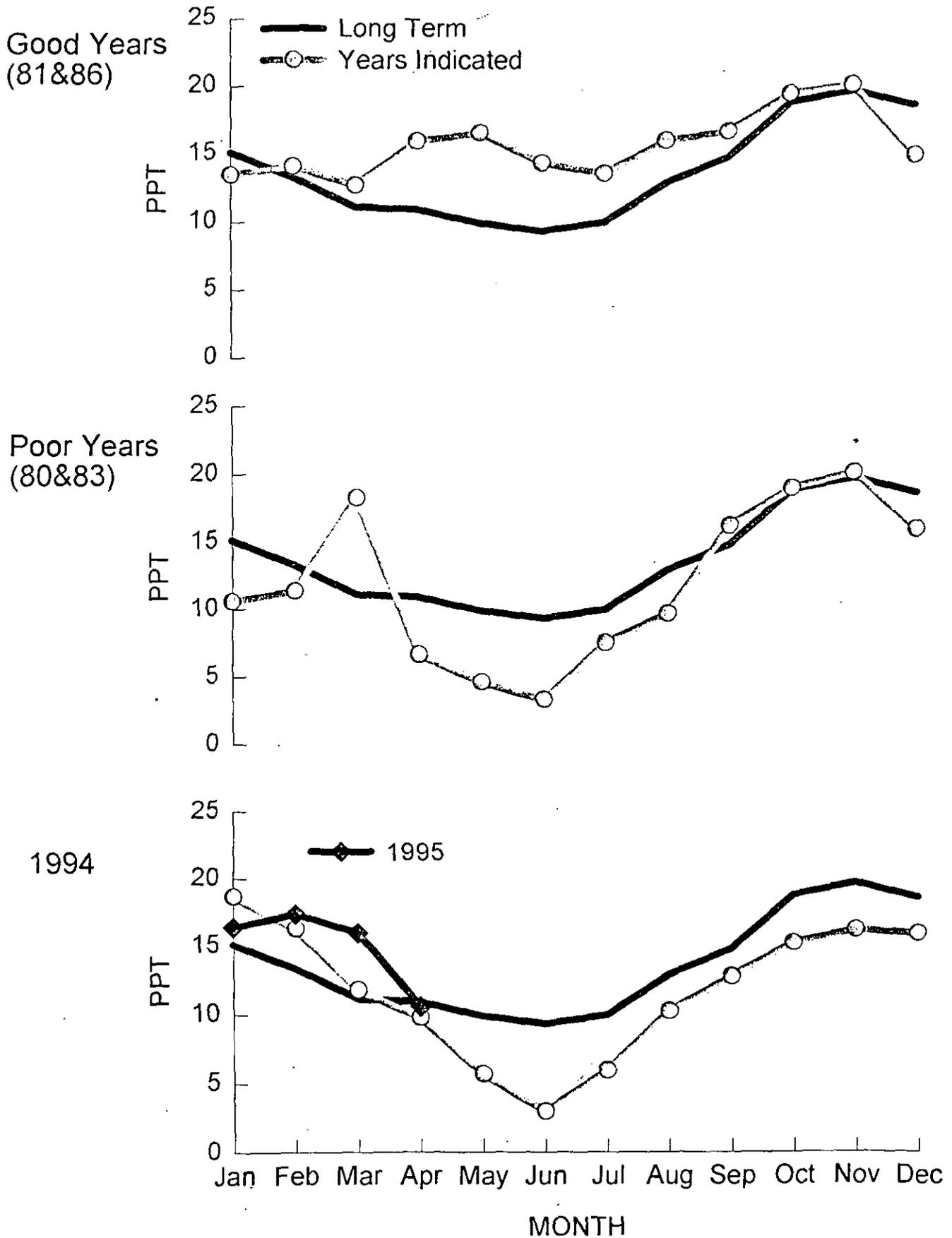
# S. E. Louisiana Rainfall



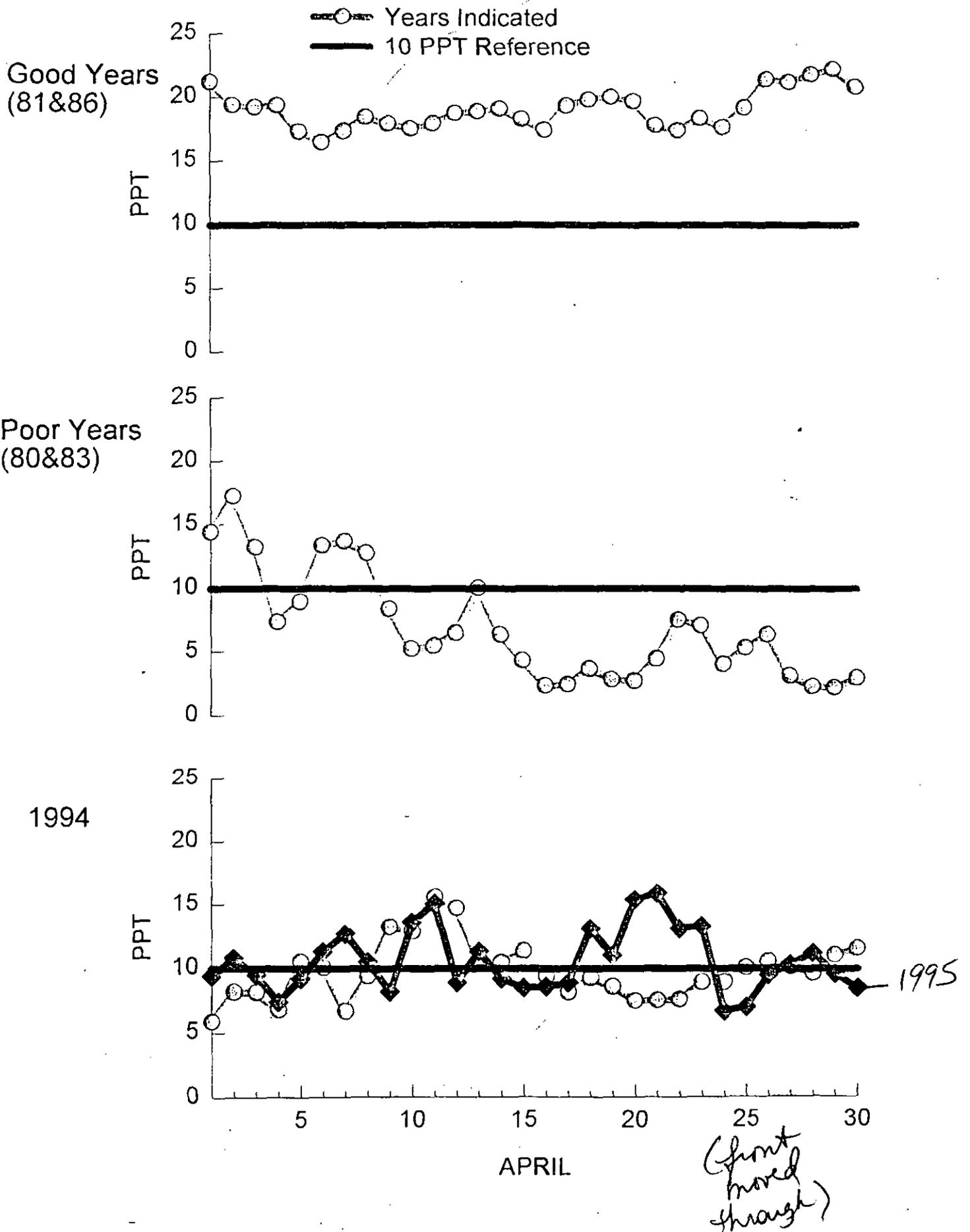
# Mississippi River Discharge



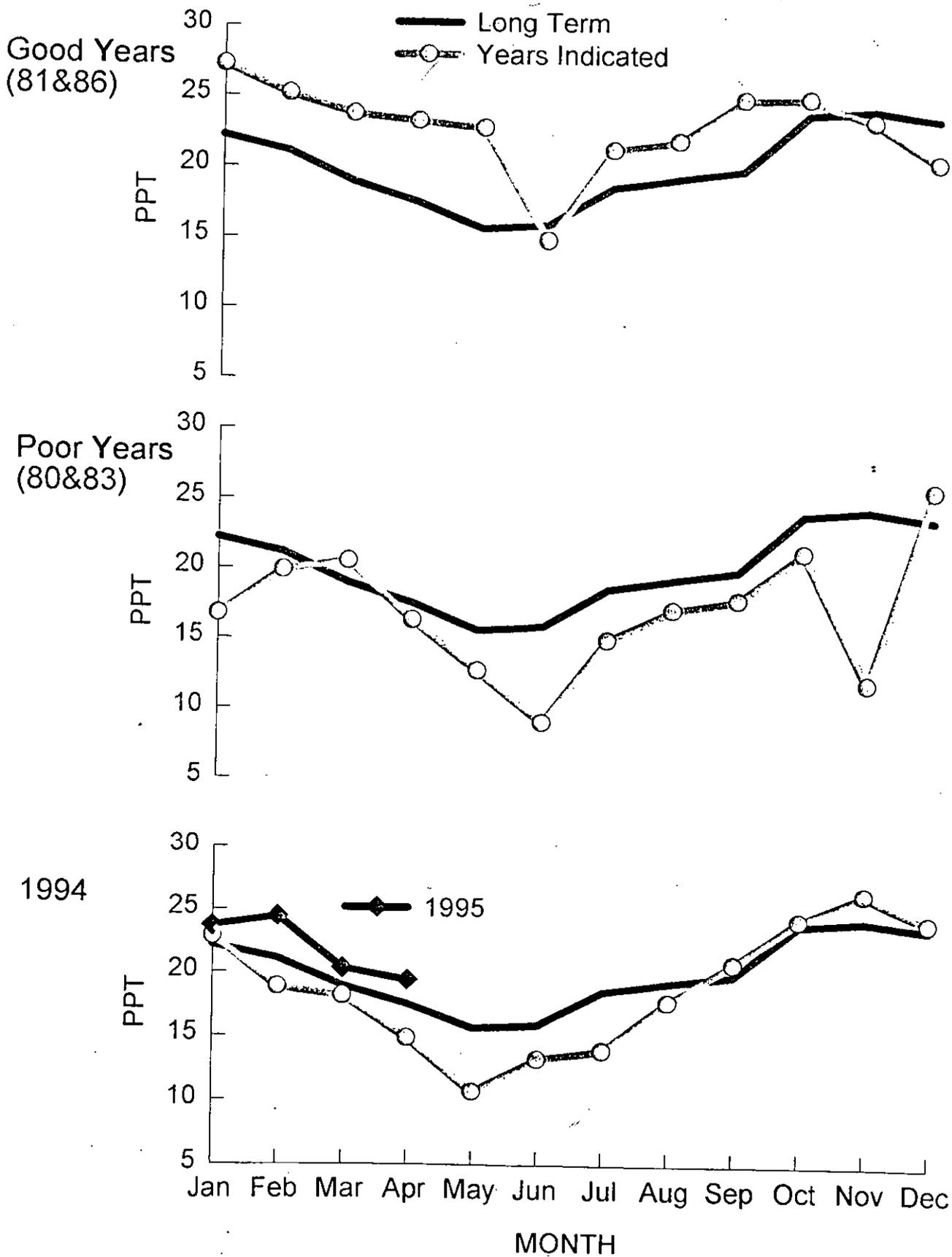
# N. Barataria Bay Salinity



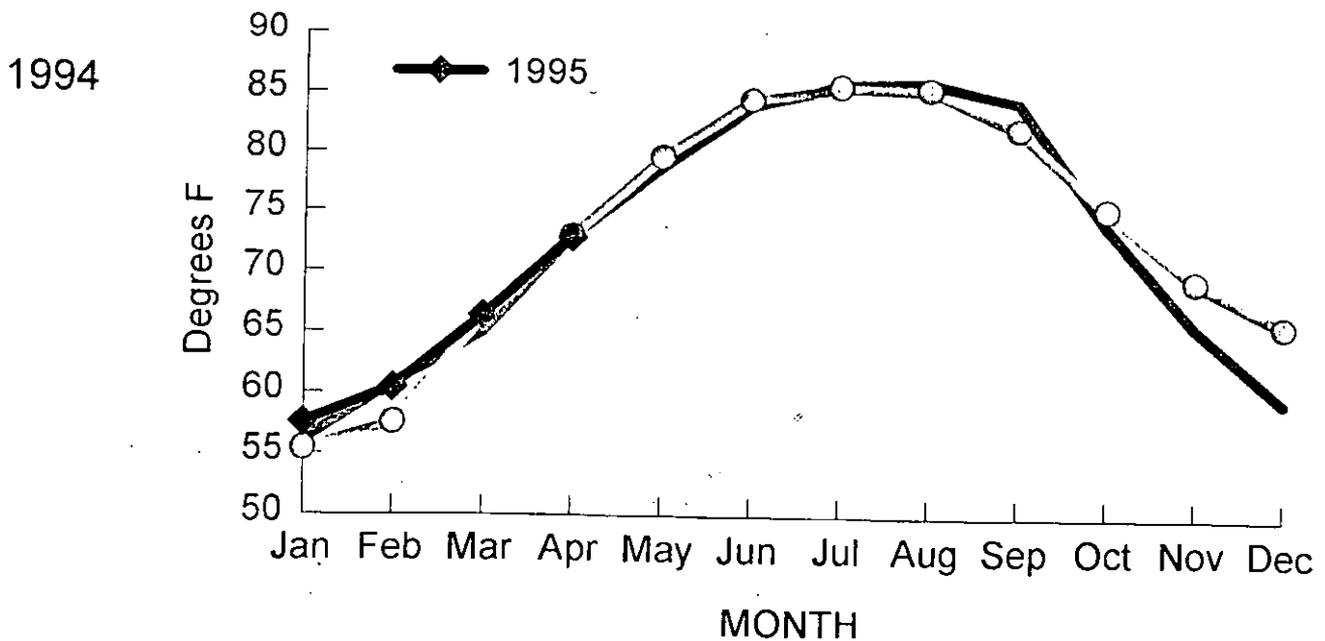
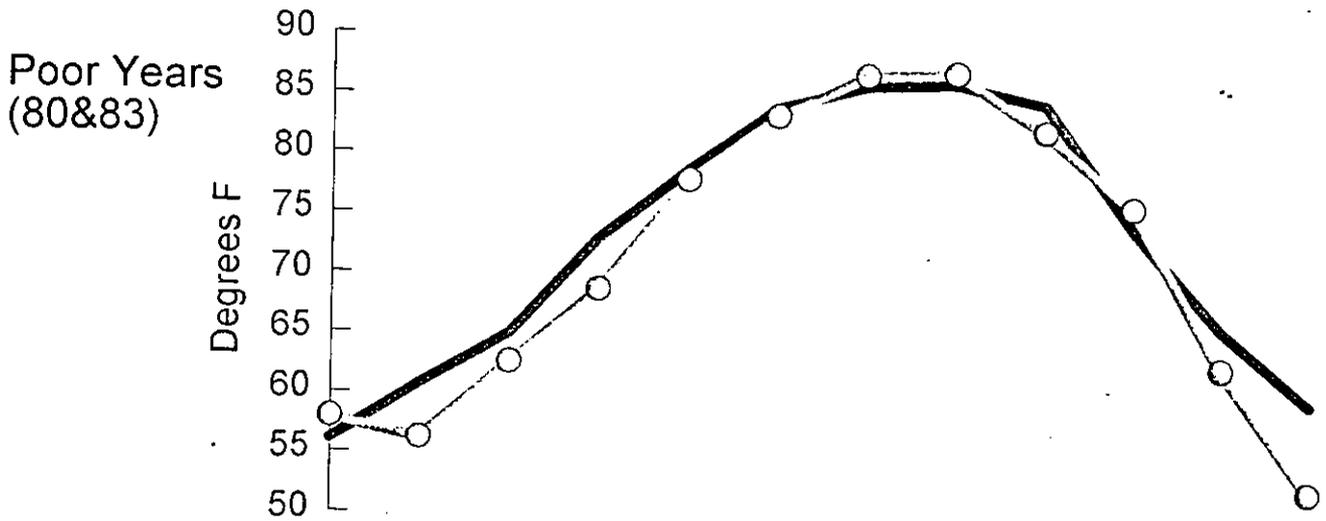
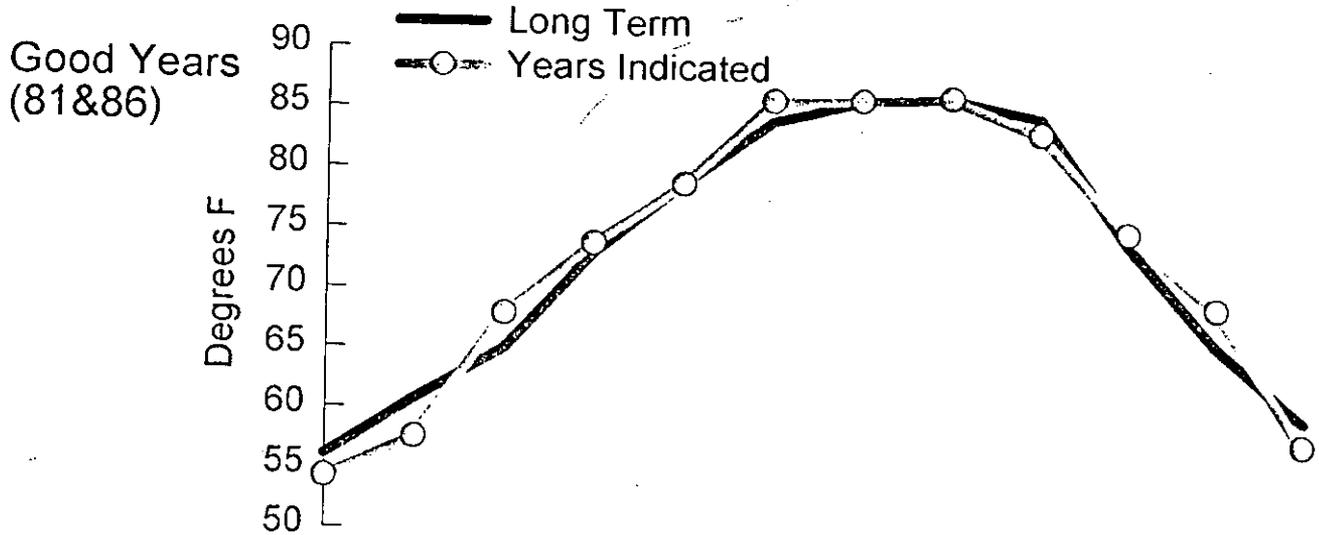
# N. Barataria Bay Daily Salinity



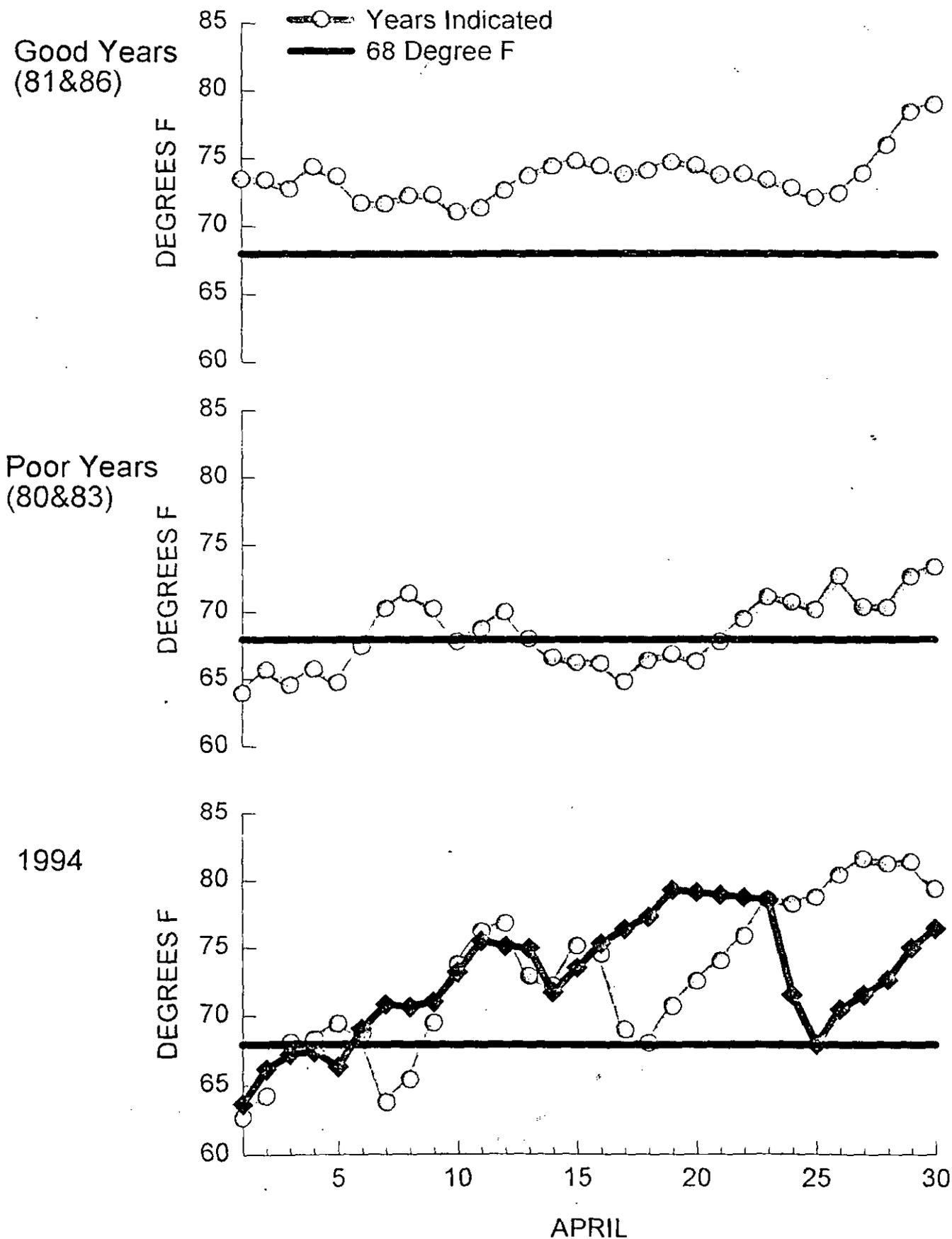
# S. Barataria Bay Salinity



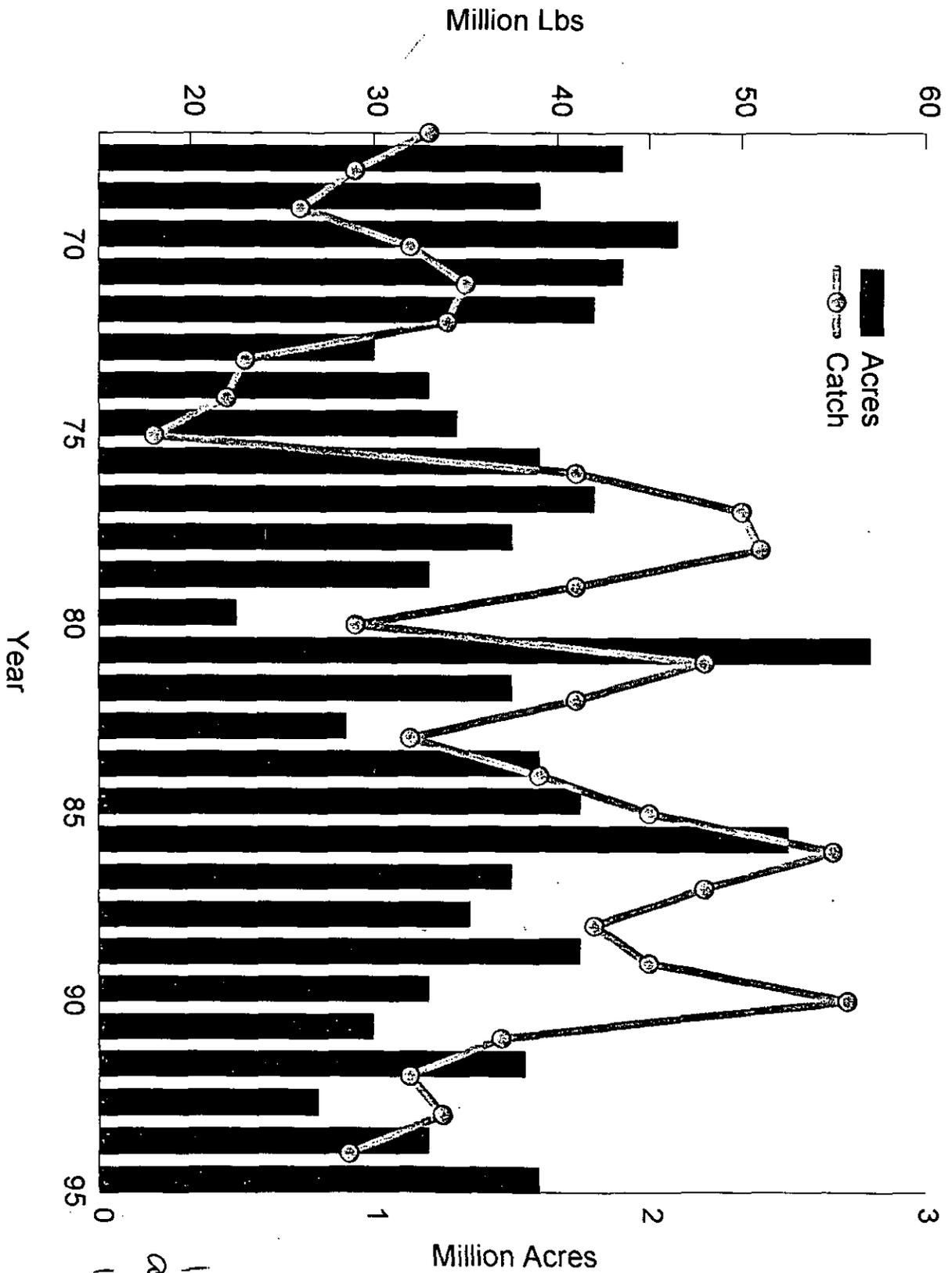
# S. Barataria Bay Temperature



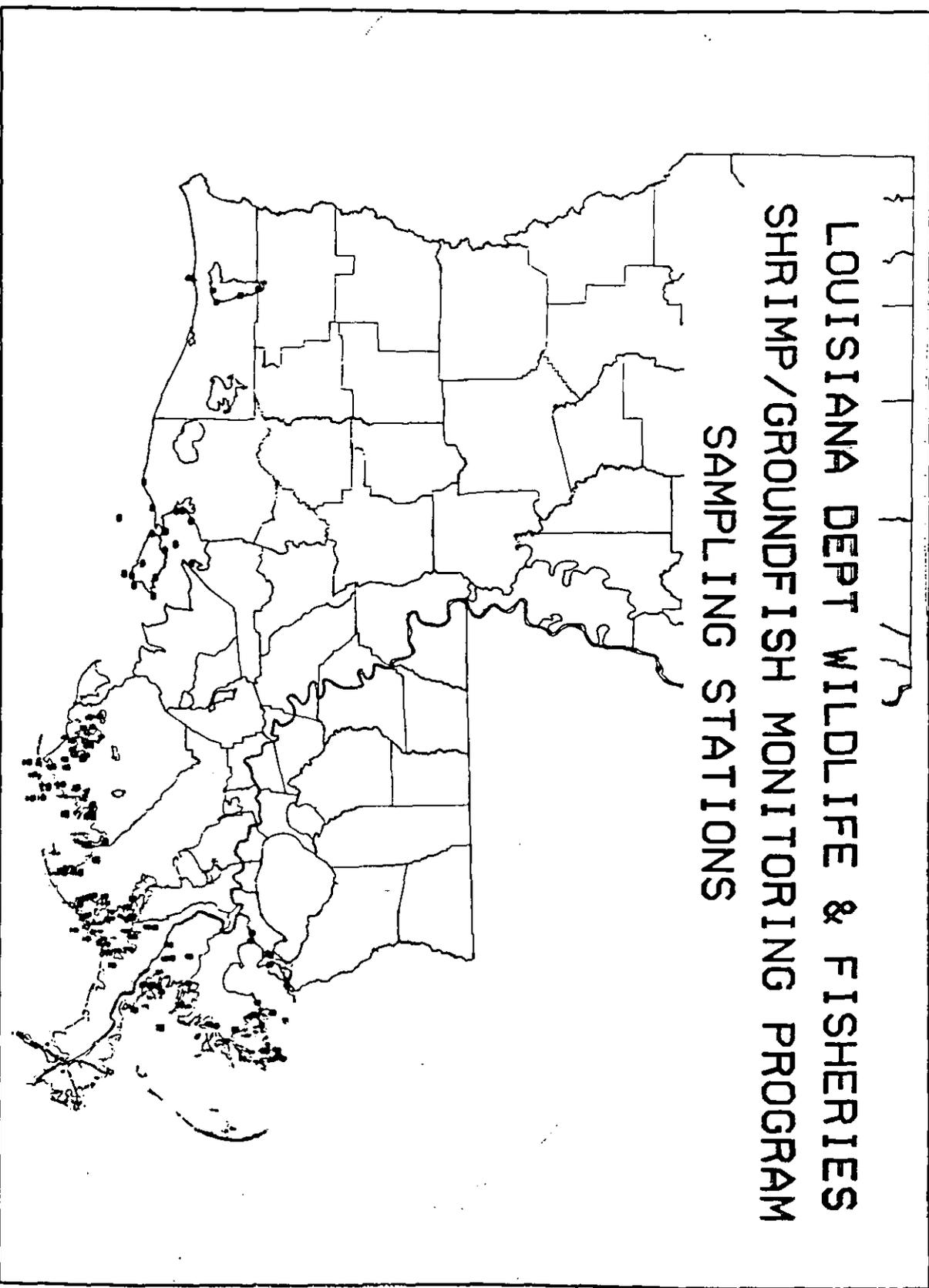
# S. Barataria Bay Daily Water Temperature



# April Brown Shrimp Nursery Area



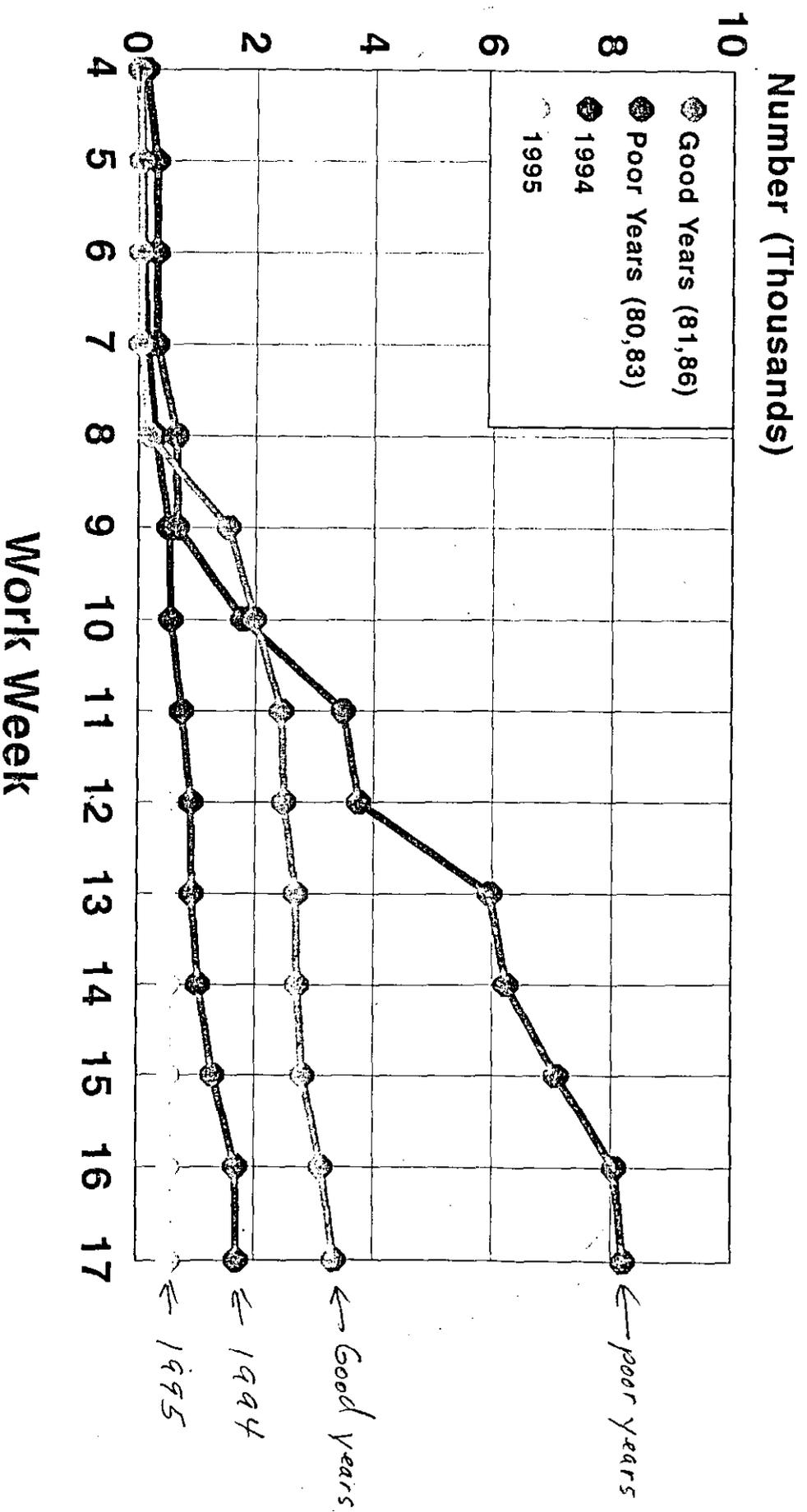
LOUISIANA DEPT WILDLIFE & FISHERIES  
SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH MONITORING PROGRAM  
SAMPLING STATIONS



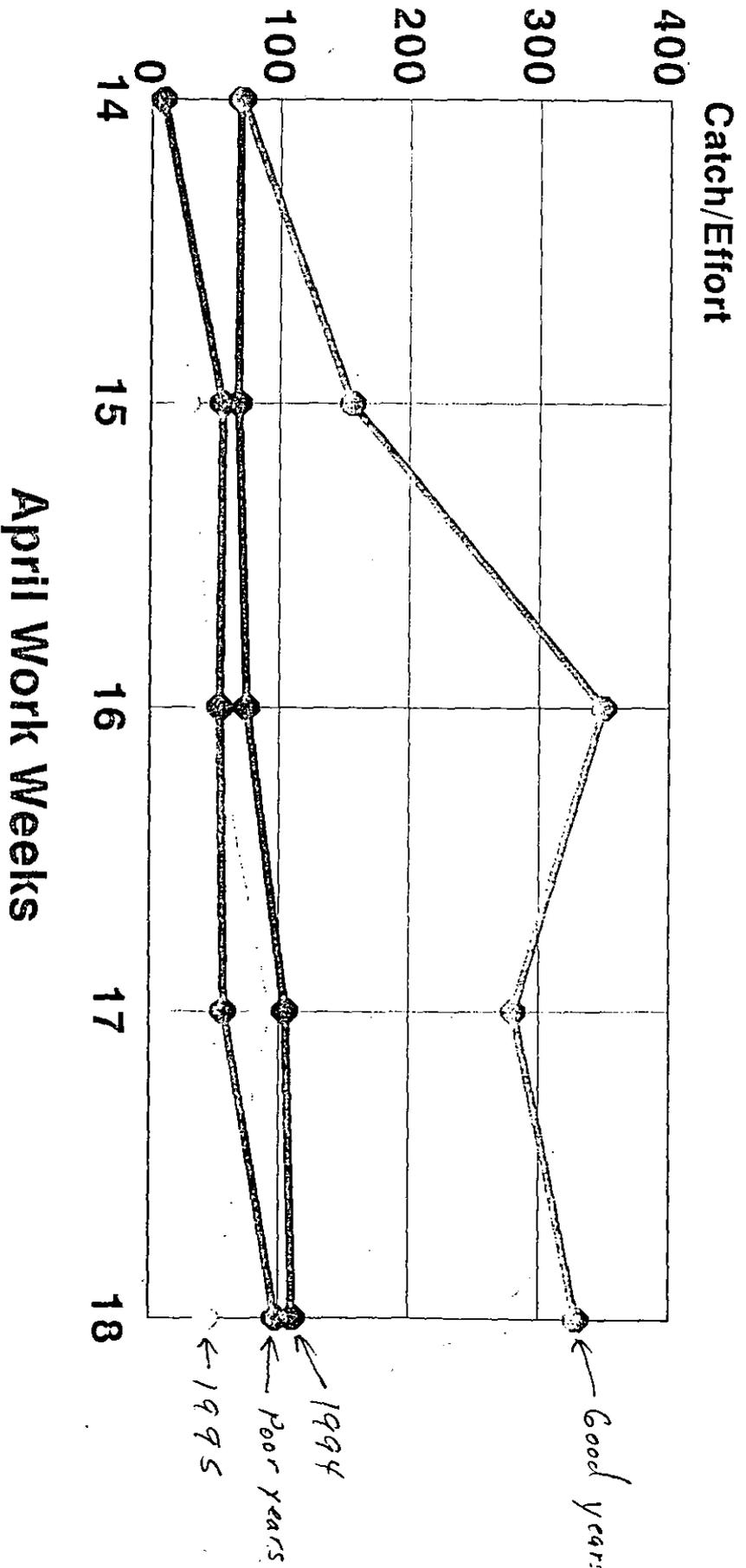
*Approx 125 weekly stations*

# Cumulative Postlarval Catch

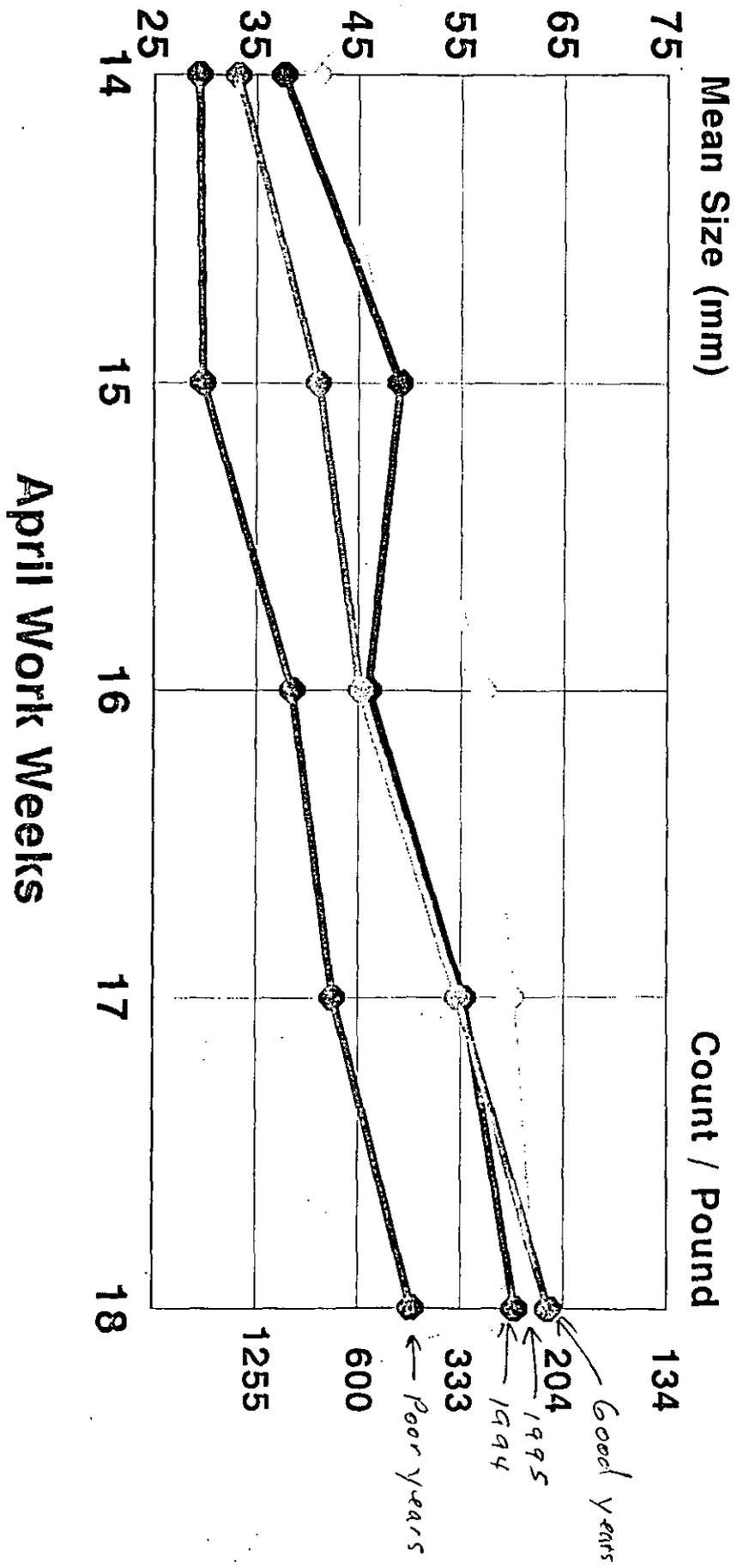
## Barataria Bay



# Brown Shrimp in 6' Trawls Barataria Bay



# Brown Shrimp in 6' Trawls Barataria Bay

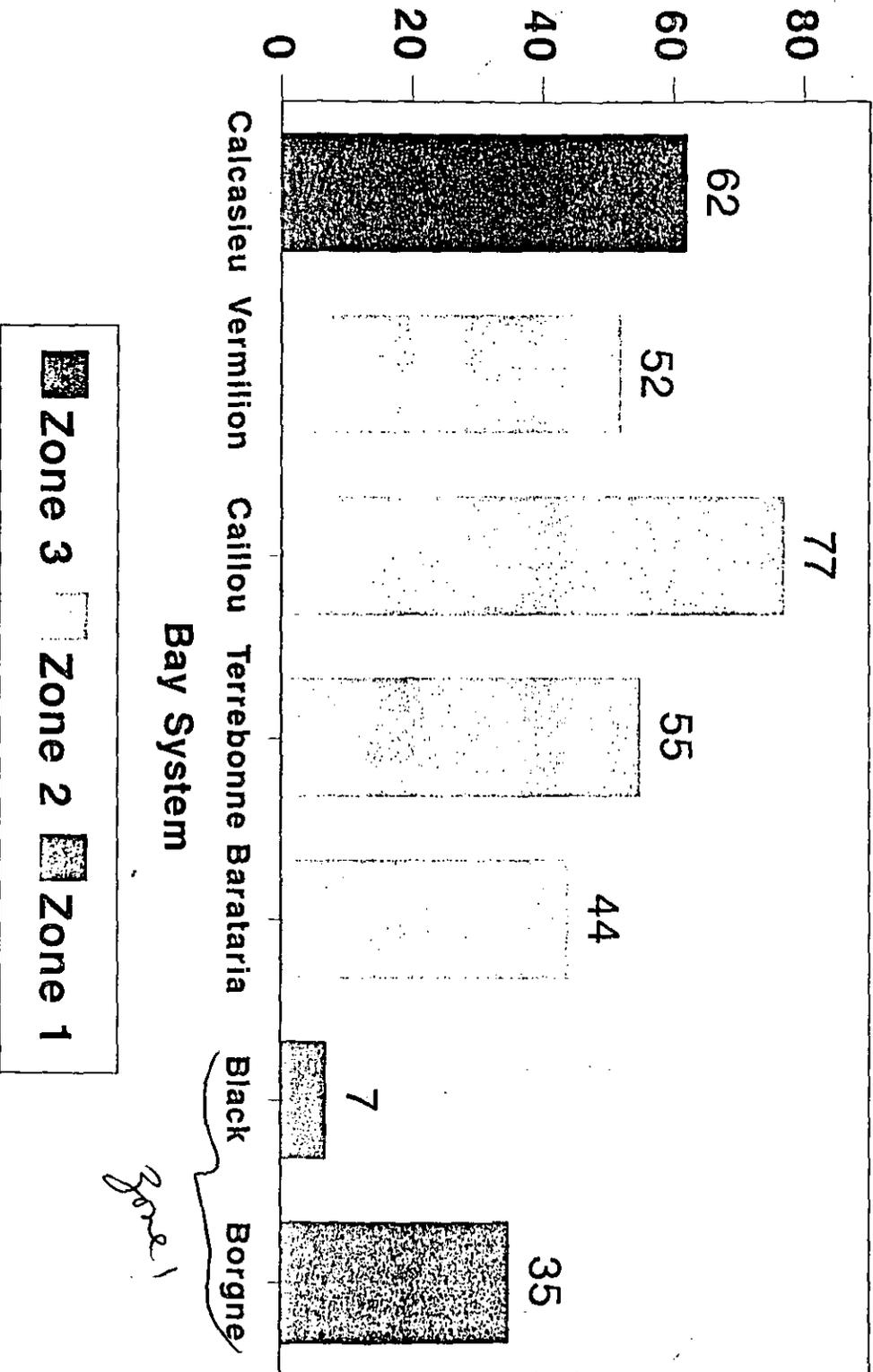


Good Years 
  Poor Years 
  1994 
  1995

# Brown Shrimp Catch per Effort

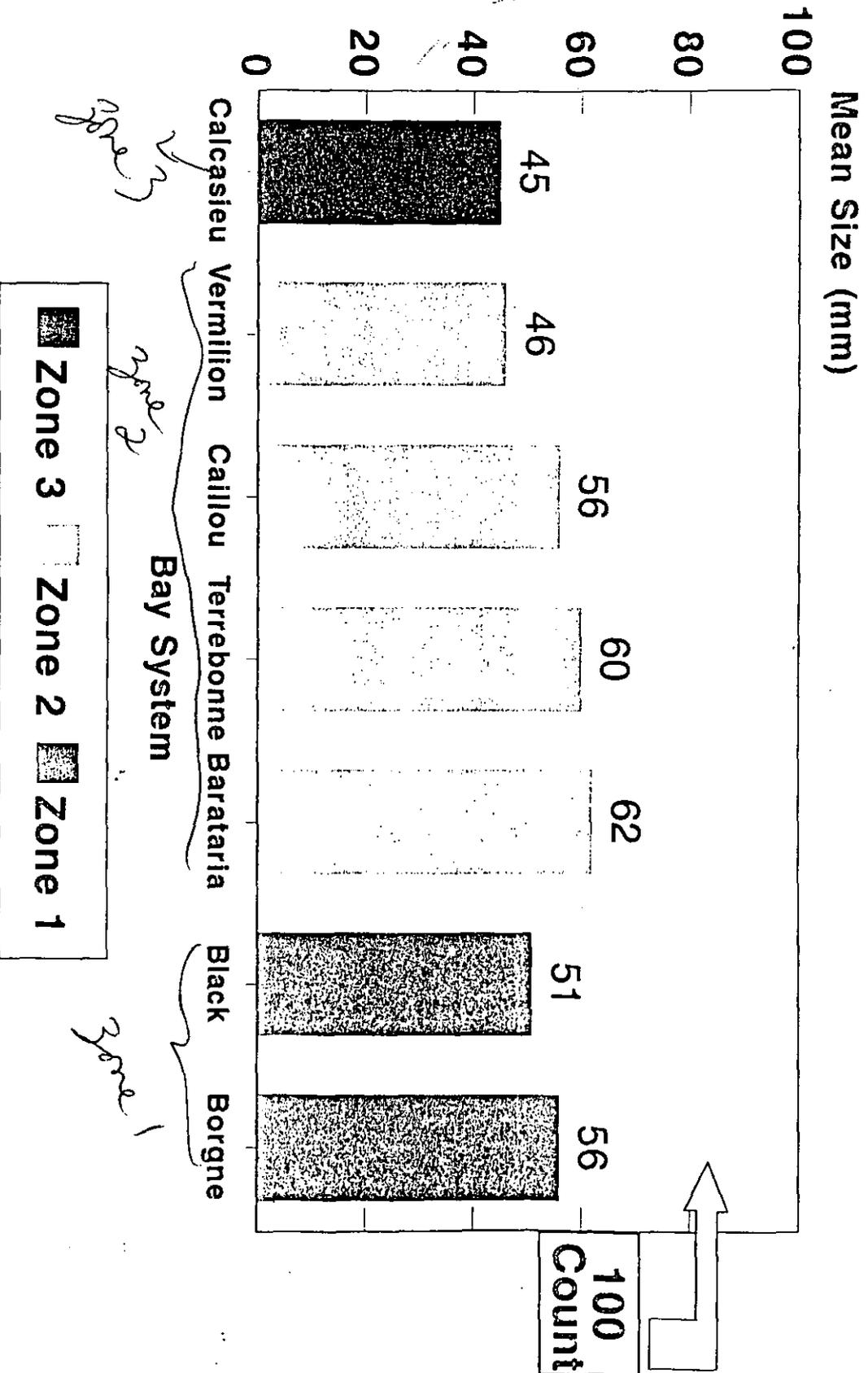
## Week 18, 1995

CPUE in 10 Minute Sample

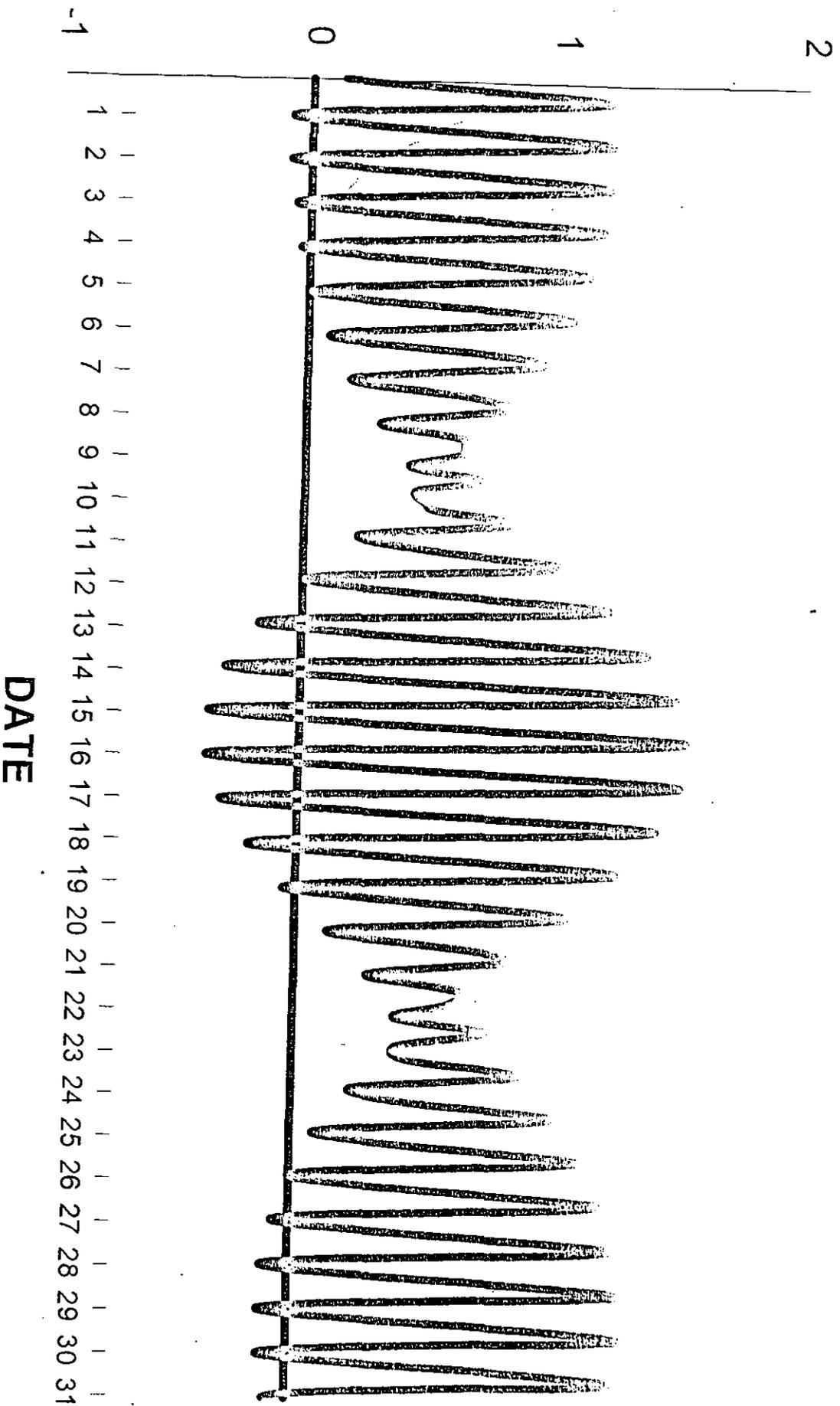


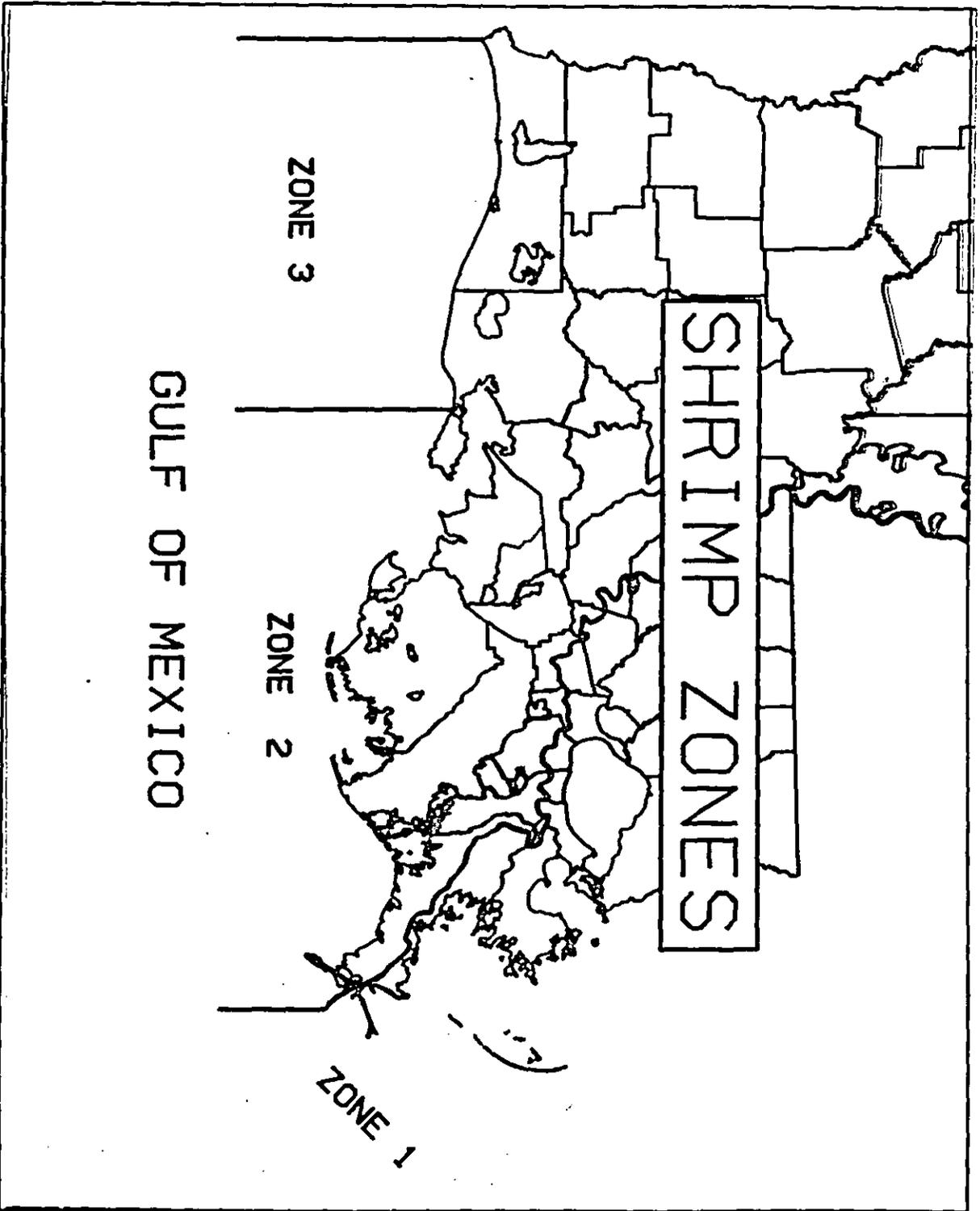
# Brown Shrimp Size

## Week 18, 1995



# May 1995 Predicted Tidal Range Barataria Pass





GULF OF MEXICO

SHRIMP ZONES

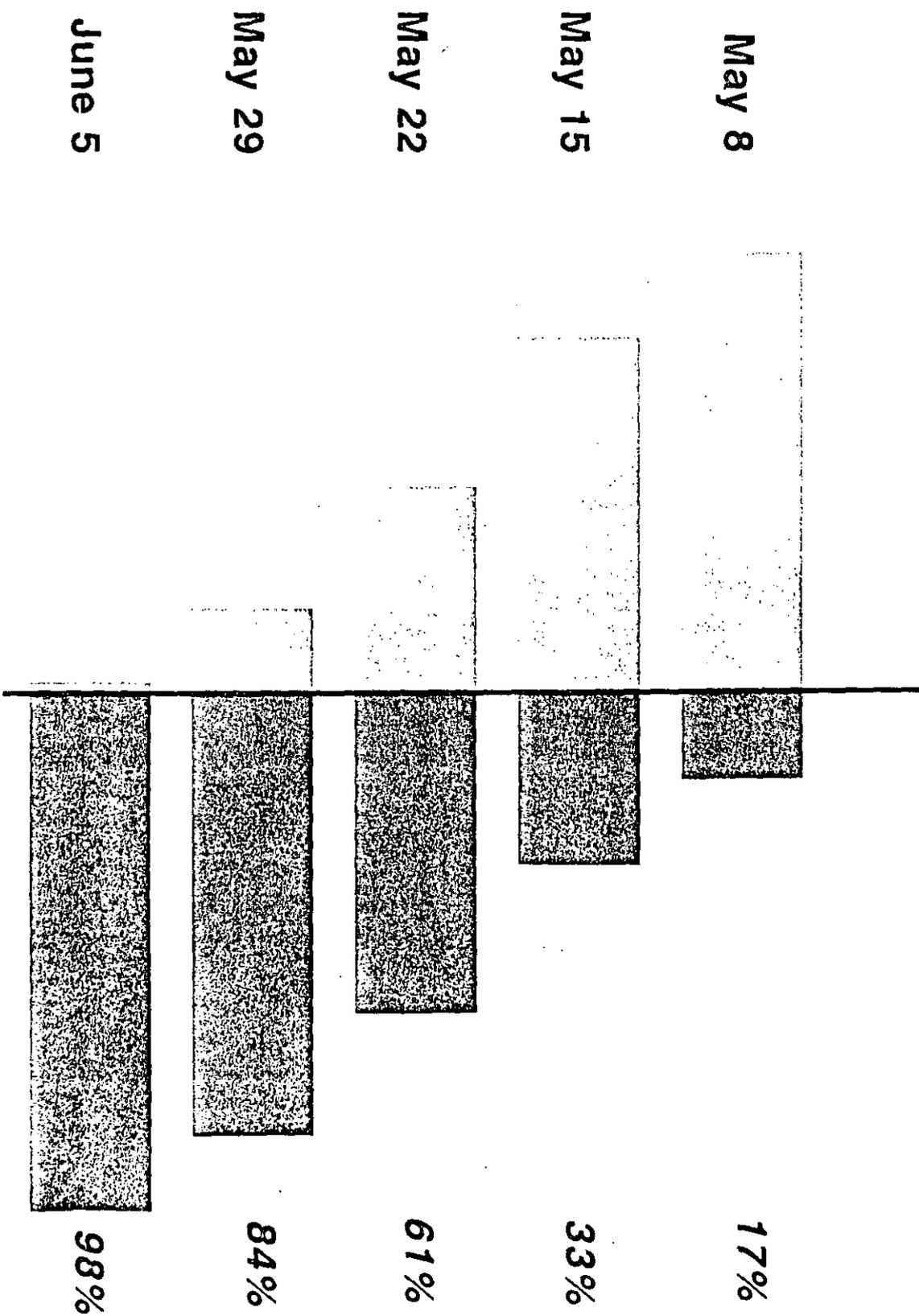
ZONE 3

ZONE 2

ZONE 1

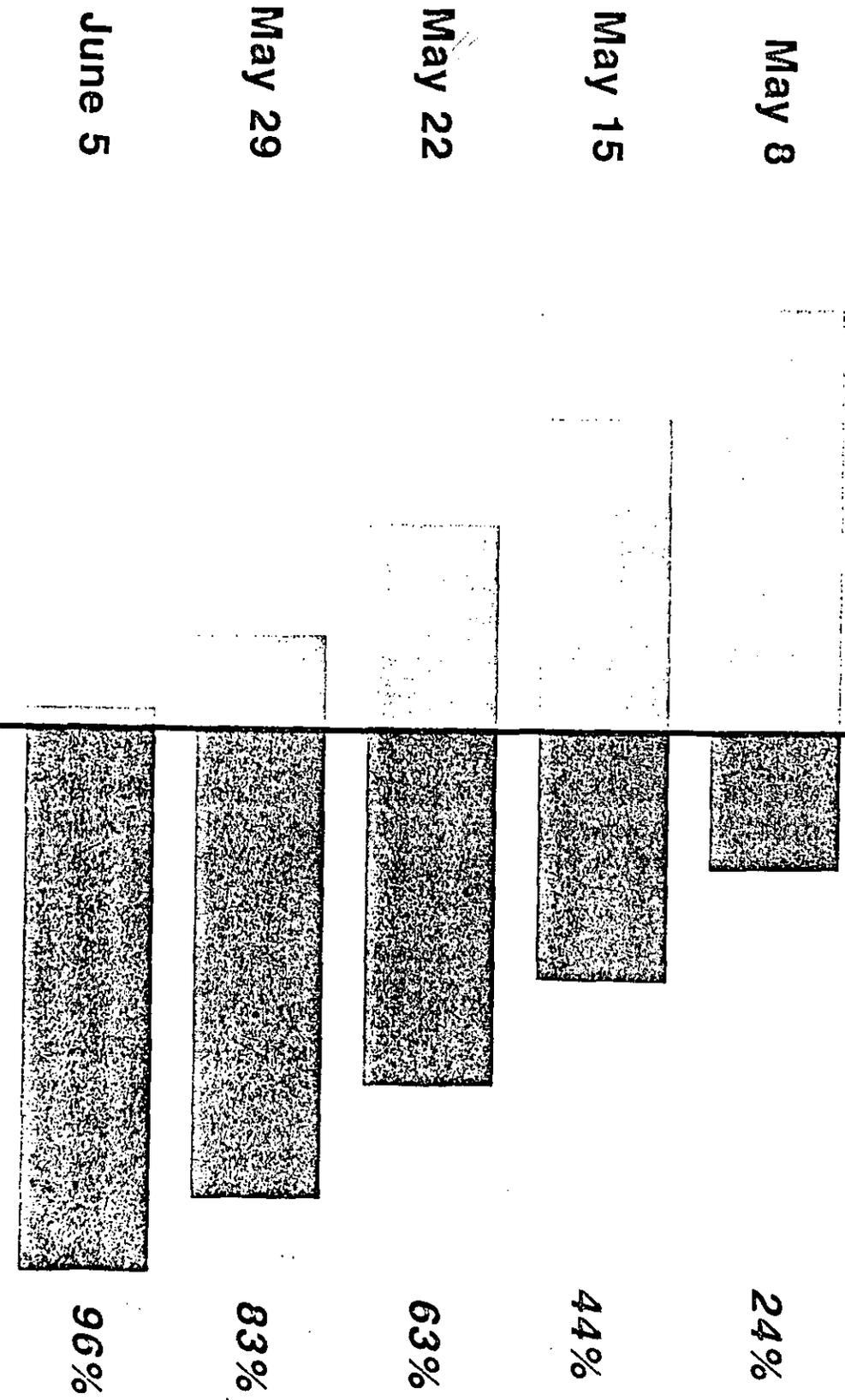
# ZONE 1 1995

Percent  
100 Count



# ZONE 2 1995

Percent  
100 Count



# ZONE 3 1995

Percent  
100 Count

May 8

1%

May 15

14%

May 22

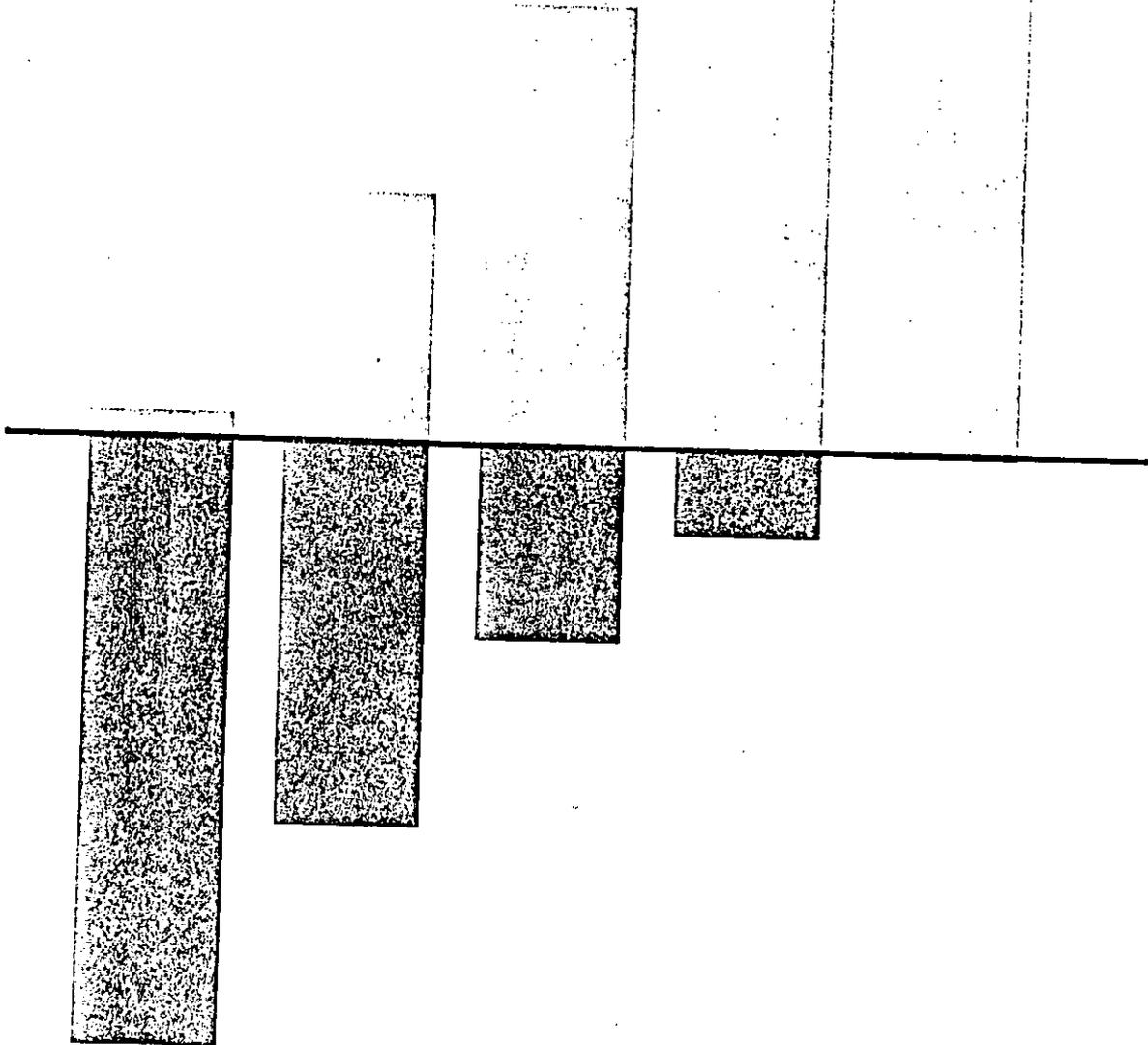
31%

May 29

61%

June 5

96%



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the traditional management criteria used by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in recommending the opening dates for the spring inshore shrimp season are based on the population of shrimp in each zone reaching such a size that 50% or more of the shrimp are 100 count per pound or larger, and

WHEREAS, current biological data show that at least 50% of the 1995 brown shrimp crop will meet the 100 count per pound management criteria in shrimp management Zone 1 by May 19, 1995, in Zone 2 by May 18, 1995 and in Zone 3 by May 26, 1995, and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a general policy sets the season to open on a Monday,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby opens the spring inshore shrimp season in Zone 1 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995, Zone 2 at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995 and in Zone 3 at 6 a.m. May 29, 1995.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby opens that portion of the State's Territorial Waters <sup>(outside waters)</sup> from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou, at 6 a.m. May 15, 1995.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the authority to close any portion of Louisiana's inshore waters to protect small white shrimp.

Chairman  
La. Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commission

Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Dept. of Wildlife and  
Fisheries

Whereas, 1 of 9 indicated that biological samples shown that some of the larger shrimp in zones 1 & 2 have begun moving into the larger bays, and

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedures Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season to open as follows:

Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the Mississippi State line to the eastern shore of South pass of the Mississippi River, to open at 6 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_, 1995, and

Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to the western shore of Vermillion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, to open at 6 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_, 1995, and

Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the western shore of Vermillion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island westward to the Texas State Line, to open at 6 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_, 1995, and

Sets the opening of portion of Louisiana's Territorial Waters from the eastern side of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel westward to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou, at 6 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_, 1995.

*(outside waters)*

The Commission also hereby grants to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries the authority to close any zone or portion of the State's waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

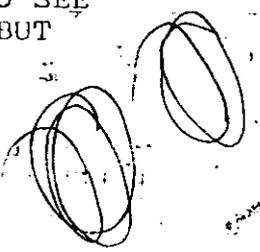
- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Merlin Belmont     | 26. Jim Matthews     |
| 2. Anthony Jackson    | 27. Moya M Ben &     |
| 3. John V. Alexis     | 28. Moya M Ben &     |
| 4. John G. Alexis Jr. | 29. Moya Ben         |
| 5. David A. Perrin    | 30. Michael Ben      |
| 6. Ronald J. Perrin   | 31. Giles Bault      |
| 7. Jerry Litchell     | 32. Richard Hanskoa  |
| 8. Earl Litchell      | 33. Tom Rutledge     |
| 9. R. J. Frick        | 34. Les Daise        |
| 10. Milton Lombas     | 35. Phil Alexis      |
| 11. William Fruehling | 36. Joe Matten       |
| 12. Herman Helms Jr.  | 37. Phil Carfield    |
| 13. Butch ADAM        | 38. Delia DeBillette |
| 14. Kenneth Gilber    | 39. Terry Helmer     |
| 15. Phil Helms        | 40. David Pizarra    |
| 16. David Penn        | 41. Dan Bault        |
| 17. Dale Perrin       | 42. ARTY MATHENNE    |
| 18. James Givella     | 43.                  |
| 19. Dede Poree        | 44.                  |
| 20. Glen Poree        | 45.                  |
| 21. Jerry Helms       | 46.                  |
| 22. Murphy Penn       | 47.                  |
| 23. Billy Penn        | 48.                  |
| 24. Tony ADAM         | 49.                  |
| 25. Larry Cordell     | 50.                  |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
 THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
 NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                                 |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Don DeLong                   | 26. Cary Perkins                      |
| 2. <del>Mark</del> Marcus Perry | 27. Johnny Perkins                    |
| 3. Add Callan                   | 28. Mical Robichaux                   |
| 4. Theriault Agoff Jr.          | 29. Ronald Gault                      |
| 5. Jimmy Rogers                 | 30. Lawrence Jordan                   |
| 6. Dicki Gines                  | 31. Martin Stutz                      |
| 7. <del>James L. ...</del>      | 32. Harold Skendell                   |
| 8. <del>James Jackson</del>     | 33. Patrick Kramer                    |
| 9. Mary Hande                   | 34. Wayne Kramer Sr.                  |
| 10. Gary Chrysler               | 35. Bill Housley                      |
| 11. <del>James ...</del>        | 36. Tracy + Leon - Ullsall, Barataria |
| 12. <del>James ...</del>        | 37.                                   |
| 13. <del>James ...</del>        | 38.                                   |
| 14. Ricky ...                   | 39.                                   |
| 15. Thomas ...                  | 40.                                   |
| 16. Allan Mathews               | 41.                                   |
| 17. James Sullivan              | 42.                                   |
| 18. De ...                      | 43.                                   |
| 19. James Sullivan              | 44.                                   |
| 20. Gilda Mathews               | 45.                                   |
| 21. Allen Mathews Sr.           | 46.                                   |
| 22. Kevin Helmer                | 47.                                   |
| 23. Gary Helmer Jr.             | 48.                                   |
| 24. Gerry Helmer                | 49.                                   |
| 25. Brian Hardy                 | 50.                                   |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Gary T. News 26.
2. Wayne Dindry 27.
3. Vincent Cooper 28.
4. William Olin 29.
5. Eugene J. Cantrell 30.
6. P. Bessley 31.
7. M. Favaleo 32.
8. Charles Hether 33.
9. Jeremy Pardo 34.
10. C. Keith 35.
11. Warren Helmer 36.
12. Mike Helmer 37.
13. C. Dupre 38.
14. Stacy Sobie 39.
15. Klein Perin 40.
16. Pershing Perin 41.
17. Jack Pardo 42.
18. Alan Pardo 43.
19. 44.
20. 45.
21. 46.
22. 47.
23. 48.
24. 49.
25. 50.



J

12/1

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. <del>Kelley Dyer</del>    | 26. Calvin Wade               |
| 2. Randy Fette               | 27. Myron M. Fette            |
| 3. Ken L. Beath              | 28. Roy Baudreant Sr.         |
| 4. Tony Griffin              | 29. Jody Fernandez            |
| 5. Richard Adams             | 30. Manuel J. Boathe Jr.      |
| 6. Slade Rogers              | 31. Latherio J. Agoff         |
| 7. Gregg Delaney             | 32. Therist J. Agoff Jr.      |
| 8. Ronald L. Gundry          | 33. Corey N. Christen Jr.     |
| 9. Curtis Rojas Jr.          | 34. Curtis J. Rojas Sr.       |
| 10. Jimmy Leclair            | 35. Victor J. Rome Jr.        |
| 11. Lynn Goff                | 36. Jeffrey Duflot            |
| 12. John Schuff              | 37. Troy Delahoussaye         |
| 13. Emma Buidry              | 38. Judy P. Scioneaux         |
| 14. Corey Christen           | 39. Mark F. Allen             |
| 15. Wayne Buidry             | 40. Roy F. Baudreant Jr.      |
| 16. Jeremy P. Darda          | 41. Ricky Griffin             |
| 17. John Belala              | 42. Jimmy Griffin Jr.         |
| 18. Joni Scioneaux           | 43. Thomas A. Griffin III     |
| 19. <del>Mark F. Allen</del> | 44. Eddie Malone              |
| 20. Adam Whit                | 45. L. J. Hunt                |
| 21. Gus Carmelle Jr.         | 46. <del>Eric Dillard</del>   |
| 22. Dennis Austin            | 47. Jeremy P. Darda           |
| 23. TED ADAMS                | 48. Robert K. Eleise          |
| 24. Victor J. Rome           | 49. Jack Baker                |
| 25. George Pizore            | 50. Brandon Fabre             |
| 54. Tracy Paris Jr.          | 51. Rhone Owen                |
| 55. Danny Gaspar             | 52. Chris Adams (Mark Perez)  |
| 56. Russ L.                  | 53. Ivan Mathews Steven Adams |

WIER

OVER

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Marion P. Adan 26.
2. Sharon Rejas 27.
3. Chad Adams 28.
4. Jerry Rodriguez 29.
5. Audrey & Casneife 30.
6. Nancy Edimer 31.
7. Erica Schuebler 32.
8. Maya Pineda 33.
9. Craig Adams Sr. 34.
10. Sandy Rosalce 35.
11. Venia Shitodeanf 36.
12. Edward Shitodeanf 37.
13. Craig Pagan 38.
14. Shane Sauchard 39.
15. ~~Thom~~ - Adan 40.
16. 41.
17. 42.
18. 43.
19. 44.
20. 45.
21. 46.
22. 47.
23. 48.
24. 49.
25. 50.

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

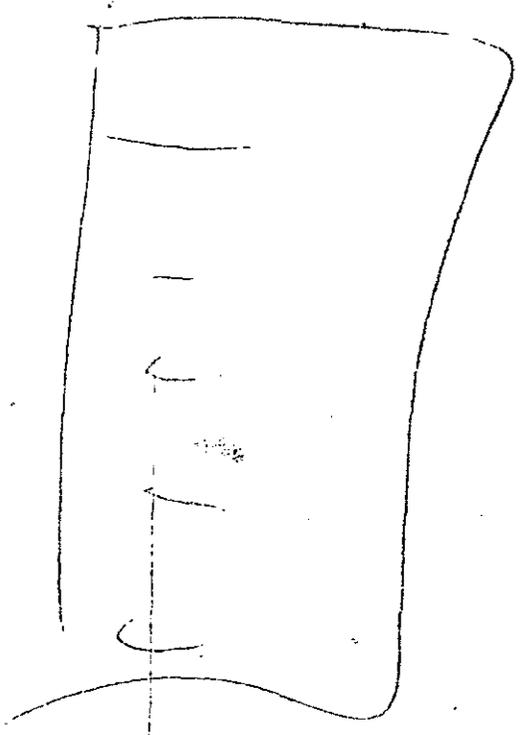
1. *Patric A. Schieffler* 26.
2. *Carl Schieffler Jr* 27.
3. *Amanda Blount* 28.
4. *William Trubling* 29.
5. *Raymond Toranella* 30.
6. *Harris Lester* 31.
7. 32.
8. 33.
9. 34.
10. 35.
11. 36.
12. 37.
13. 38.
14. 39.
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16. 41.
17. 42.
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23. 48.
24. 49.
25. 50.

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- 1. Mrs. Letha Lorette
- 2. Charles Abinkoff
- 3. Dwight E. Hinton
- 4. J. Malgouy
- 5. Jimmy Lee
- 6. Bobbie Campbell
- 7. Anthony Prestenbach
- 8. Mrs. Alexia [unclear]
- 9. Corey C. [unclear]
- 10. Ray [unclear]
- 11. Willie LeCompte
- 12. Kenneth LeCompte
- 13. BRANDY Langridge
- 14. Rocky Alamo
- 15. Kenneth Langridge
- 16. Brandy Alexander
- 17. Rocky Bel Bone
- 18. Doodle Hall
- 19. Goldie [unclear]
- 20. Mrs. Lewis [unclear]
- 21. Tim Sartin
- 22. Lillian Sartin
- 23. Leonard McNeely
- 24. [unclear]
- 25. Wendy [unclear]

- 26. N. Lorette C. C. [unclear]
- 27. ~~Willie [unclear]~~
- 28. Bill W. Gourley
- 29. Lula Phillips
- 30. Thos. Madis

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*[Handwritten signature]*

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Kenneth Bundy      | 26. Thomas Jozemel        |
| 2. Joseph Silva       | 27. Bernard A. Praterdahl |
| 3. Katrina Suckey     | 28.                       |
| 4. Belle Bundy        | 29.                       |
| 5. Mella Filler       | 30.                       |
| 6. Wesley Suckey      | 31.                       |
| 7. Dean Suckey        | 32.                       |
| 8. Lisa Roberts       | 33.                       |
| 9. Rodney Endrad      | 34.                       |
| 10. <del>John</del>   | 35.                       |
| 11. Don Harriet       | 36.                       |
| 12. Gerald Guidry     | 37.                       |
| 13. Wesley Guidry     | 38.                       |
| 14. Roy Guidry        | 39.                       |
| 15. Russell Honey     | 40.                       |
| 16. Adolph Carlfield  | 41.                       |
| 17. Ludwid Suckey SR. | 42.                       |
| 18. Ludwid Suckey Jr. | 43.                       |
| 19. Grant Bundy       | 44.                       |
| 20. Barry Zar         | 45.                       |
| 21. John Zar          | 46.                       |
| 22. Bruce Kuhn Sr.    | 47.                       |
| 23. Stephanie Kuhn    | 48.                       |
| 24. Jena Kuhn         | 49.                       |
| 25. Mem J. Podda Sr.  | 50.                       |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Roy Smiley                | 26. David S. Rouch     |
| 2. Edmund (Furry) Kelly Sr.  | 27. Shawn Rouch        |
| 3. Narciso Lepriano          | 28. Philp R. Rouch Sr. |
| 4. Jessie P. Adam Sr.        | 29. James Kersey       |
| 5. Elaine Cutchell           | 30. Gustave Kersey     |
| 6. Jerris Meyers             | 31. Pat Smith          |
| 7. Dennis D. Austin          | 32. Phil Smith         |
| 8. <del>Marcus Saplot</del>  | 33. B.H. King          |
| 9. Marcus Saplot Sr.         | 34. Wallace L. Case    |
| 10. Edward Head Jr.          | 35.                    |
| 11. Calvin Wade              | 36.                    |
| 12. <del>David Smith</del>   | 37.                    |
| 13. Anthony Santini          | 38.                    |
| 14. Betty Ortega             | 39.                    |
| 15. <del>Roddy Bruce</del>   | 40.                    |
| 16. <del>Randy Desport</del> | 41.                    |
| 17. Lindsey Santini          | 42.                    |
| 18. Tracy Bruce              | 43.                    |
| 19. <del>Marcus Saplot</del> | 44.                    |
| 20. Madeline Terrelonne      | 45.                    |
| 21. Sherry Harrell           | 46.                    |
| 22. Brad Schouest            | 47.                    |
| 23. Jim Terrelonne           | 48.                    |
| 24. Nathan Hawley Jr.        | 49.                    |
| 25. Diane Stein              | 50.                    |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Cloum R Gundry Sr 26.
2. Wyatt Gundry 27.
3. Clinton P Gundry Sr. 28.
4. Shandy Gundry 29.
5. Clarence Gundry 30.
6. Carol Alfer 31.
7. Jaze Gundry 32.
8. Rosco Gundry 33.
9. Bohanda Gundry 34.
10. Naci Encalade 35.
11. 36.
12. 37.
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90

180

500

7X10

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Paul Poor              | 26. Judy C. Koa Belsome        |
| 2. Gatti Alpie            | 27. Shawn C. Cebra             |
| 3. <del>By Dept</del>     | 28. DuMa                       |
| 4. Vivian Tolson          | 29. <del>Frank...</del>        |
| 5. Joe Horn               | 30. Delora Kerner              |
| 6. <del>Thoms</del>       | 31. Rodney Varnado             |
| 7. Fannie Martin          | 32. David M. Belsome           |
| 8. Clarence Gahway        | 33. <del>Gregory...</del>      |
| 9. Henry White            | 34. <del>Paul</del>            |
| 10. Herbert Caselo        | 35. Thang                      |
| 11. Royal Coleman         | 36. +                          |
| 12. Larry Deumore         | 37. Manuel Crappell            |
| 13. Carolyn Limer         | 38. Norman...                  |
| 14. Sinh Van Nguyen       | 39. <del>Michael A. Pote</del> |
| 15. Keith Martin          | 40. Tracy Kuhn                 |
| 16. Deanne Varnado        | 41.                            |
| 17. Melissa Bernard       | 42.                            |
| 18. <del>Shirley...</del> | 43.                            |
| 19. <del>Shirley...</del> | 44.                            |
| 20. Rosalynn              | 45.                            |
| 21. Ephraim Nguyen        | 46.                            |
| 22. <del>Timothy...</del> | 47.                            |
| 23. <del>Nguyen...</del>  | 48.                            |
| 24. <del>Nguyen...</del>  | 49.                            |
| 25. <del>Nguyen...</del>  | 50.                            |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Nelson Jennings 26.
2. J. J. [unclear] 27.
3. Henry C. [unclear] 28.
4. Joseph Adams 29.
5. Dorsey [unclear] 30.
6. Gladys [unclear] 31.
7. Herman [unclear] 32.
8. Trudy [unclear] 33.
9. Adam Bruce 34.
10. Dale [unclear] 35.
11. Chad M. Rogers 36.
12. David W. [unclear] 37.
13. Jimmy George 38.
14. Angela Georgousis 39.
15. Michael Creffel 40.
16. [unclear] 41.
17. Kirk [unclear] 42.
18. Dena [unclear] 43.
19. William J. [unclear] 44.
20. Ryan Eldon 45.
21. Edward [unclear] 46.
22. Sam Adams 47.
23. 48.
24. 49.
25. 50.

*[Handwritten signature]*

WE- THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO-AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN, ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Jimmy Alejo 26.
2. Vincent S. Alejo Jr. 27.
3. Florence M. Alejo 28.
4. Alma Schultz 29.
5. Michael P. Carter 30.
6. Nora S. Carter 31.
7. Shirley Brossard 32.
8. Catherine Autea 33.
9. Linda Dangurean 34.
10. Kay W. Gilbert 35.
11. Helma A. Prior 36.
12. Scott J. Prior 37.
13. Ricky Alejo Sr. 38.
14. Ricky Alejo Jr. 39.
15. Nicky J. Alejo 40.
16. Gary A. Schutz 41.
17. 42.
18. 43.
19. 44.
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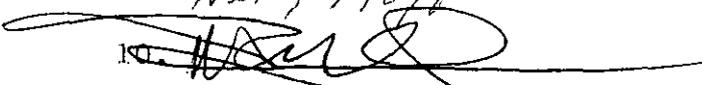
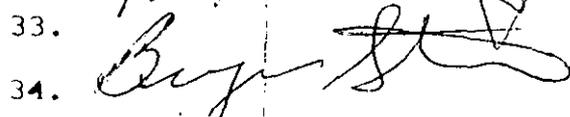
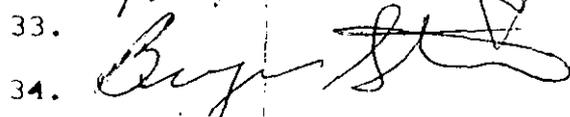
WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Jennifer Terrel
2. Daji Perin
3. Janet Brown
4. Karbi A. Coulb Sr.
5. Ronda O. Coulon
6. Louis D. Adam
7. Louis D. Adam
8. Margaret Adam
9. David Eckerle
10. Verge Eckerle
11. David M. Perin
12. Bonnie Perin
13. Preston A. Coulon
14. Darrell Beule
15. Walter Cronkite
16. Bill Dance
17. Herin Cole
18. ~~R. Vintners~~
19. ~~Steve Pyle~~
20. Jay Mattum Sr.
21. Ralph Agoff
22. Marison Agoff
23. Edward J. Perin
24. Phil's Simmons
25. Lee Allen Beutte
26. Kathy W. Whittington
27. Bonnie Beutte
28. Floyd Adam
29. Russ Hatty Jr.
30. Ledia Adams
31. Kellie Eckerle
32. BOB Congouin
33. Jimmy Duffin
34. Steve Bandoun
35. Ray Bouleant
36. SWAMP DOG
37. Pete
38. LWDF
39. LDWF
40. Adam Perin
41. Mc Eckerle
42. John Whittington
43. Ronald Christen
44. Harold Piquon
45. Buddy Jewell.
46. Karen M. Senase
47. Clarence Sammy Gates
48. Kurt Perin
49. Sionda Veldin
50. SANDY WATKES

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
 THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
 NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Veronica Hebert           | 26. Andra Martini               |
| 2. Mitchell Martin           | 27. Louis Savetsky              |
| 3. Calvin A. Fleming         | 28. <del>Pat Vignone</del>      |
| 4. Donald J. Loras Jr.       | 29. Marie Duprene               |
| 5. Don J. Loras Sr.          | 30. Wesley Guindy               |
| 6. Molly B. Ewes             | 31. Don Hammet                  |
| 7. Sarah C. Rock             | 32. Roy Guindy                  |
| 8. Gerald Coppel             | 33. Travis High                 |
| 9. Archie Encalade Sr.       | 34. <del>Dominic J. Dupre</del> |
| 10. Anthony Encalade Jr.     | 35. Neer Valon                  |
| 11. Gary J. Probst           | 36. Rodney A. Meptin            |
| 12. <del>Carl W. Smith</del> | 37. Charles Coppel              |
| 13. Michal C. Slatowski      | 38. Ron Martin                  |
| 14. Joe Williams             | 39. Philip J. Conwell           |
| 15. Beresford Beresford Jr.  | 40. TRACY MAMOLO                |
| 16. M. Martin Jr.            | 41. Michel Adam                 |
| 17. Effie Martin             | 42. <del>Benie Cate</del>       |
| 18. Mrs. Mitchell Martin     | 43. PETE CAULFIELD (C)          |
| 19. Shelia Verdin            | 44. BERNARD JOHN EWARD          |
| 20. Jerry Verdin Sr.         | 45. Gary M. Verdin              |
| 21. Jerry Verdin Sr.         | 46. Billy Verdin                |
| 22. Stella Guindy            | 47. <del>Jeff Dought</del>      |
| 23. Gerald Guindy            | 48. Rosemary C. Slatowski       |
| 24. Berdine Palare           | 49. Mitch Belaman               |
| 25. M D Hughes               | 50. Norman Martin Jr.           |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Bryan Despain
2. Connie Despain
3. Adia Harney
4. Alfred Harney
5. Charline Falley
6. Carriet Falley
7. Carl D. Falley
8. Gay Mayfield
9. Henry Mayfield
- ~~10. ~~
11. Sandy Plausance
12. David Plausance
13. Melissa Plausance
14. Shawn Plausance
15. Harold Plausance Jr.
16. David M. Coulon Sr.
17. Ted M. Coulon
18. Ad. H. Sebant
19. Charles Sebant
20. Eric Nass
21. John Collins
22. Gina Collins
23. Robert J. Jansosa
24. Vincent Collins
25. Nancy Collins
26. Brett Creppel
27. Bart Creppel
28. John Collins
29. Phyllis Pyarie
30. Cyrus Blanchard
31. Teresa J. Jarnie
32. Tom Rutledge
33. 
34. 
35. Denise Hertz
36. Gay Ann Balmer
37. Seth Balmer
38. Harry Rome
39. Amanda Rome
40. Jim Lindley
41. Walter Landry 
42. Don Longo
43. Donald Cooper Sr.
44. Fay Cooper
45. Kyrstal Cooper
46. Arthie P. Price
47. Raven Orgeron
48. Darnah Orgeron
49. Irma 
50. Clarence creppel 

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Audrey Adams
2. John Bailey
3. Anson Venable
4. Elso Venable
5. Alex Venable
6. Tadless Venable
7. B. de Venable
8. Angela Venable
9. Marcos Berkeine
10. David Quintero
11. Nelia Quintero
12. P. Ross Quintero
13. Asmerod Tenbb
14. Kim Collins
15. Michelle Quenbauer
16. Faust Navero
17. Brad Navero
18. Audrey Lopez
19. Victoria Hickman
20. Eugene Hickman
21. Ivin Hunt
22. Danny Golde
23. Marvin M. Wallin
24. Murphy R. Wallin
25. Sarah Schultz
26. Herbert Schultz Jr.
27. Holly Ficks
28. Aaron Duprene
29. Monica Ficks
30. Rachel White
31. Edward Guillie
32. Rodney Small Jr.
33. Shelly S. Stein
34. Shula A. Longulle
35. Barbara Pantini
36. Carol Small Jr.
37. Mary Ann Encalade
38. Edward Encalade
39. Rodney Encalade
40. Tracy Barrios
41. Pat Couevas
42. Lisa Saplut
43. Marcus Saplut Jr.
44. Marcus Saplut Sr.
45. Mandy Saplut
46. Mark A. Saplut
47. Cindy Friesz
48. Pauline Casley
49. Kerry Palmer
50. Tim Palmer

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Ozell Lapsut
2. Vincent Lapsut
3. John Stein
4. Robert Lapsut
5. Michael Stein
6. Paul White
7. Frank R. Christon JR
8. Joey Christon
9. Charles Mamolo
10. Larry Mamolo
11. Romeo Mamolo Jr.
12. Elaine Mamolo
13. Thura Mamolo
14. Sheila Mamolo
15. Romeo Mamolo Sr.
16. Pat A. Wansport
17. Wilton Gulon Box 482 Barataria
18. Amy Gulon Box 482 Barataria
19. Timothy Helmer Box 482 Barataria
20. Eric Fitzgerald Box 482 Barataria
21. Mada Helmer
22. Maude Kraemer
23. Keith Helmer
24. Wayne Kraemer
25. Pearl Kuhn
26. Frank Kuhn III
27. Ann Adams
28. Robert S. Lanassa II
29. Tina C. Lanassa
30. Gary A. Adams
31. Dennis C. Fisher Jr.
32. Ernest Adams Jr
33. Sharon Adams
34. Sylvia N. Savoie
35. James A. Savoie Sr.
36. Helen Jackson
37. Kelvin Jackson
38. Sandy Pousace
39. Yvonne Pousace
40. David Pousace Jr.
41. Melissa Pousace
42. Sharon Pousace
43. Diana Mathene
44. Claudia Helmer
45. Russell M. Easley
46. Michelle Easley
47. Gustav G. Easley
48. Norma Roberts
49. Elton Friday
50. ~~Malcolm~~ Friday

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. J. Boucy
2. R. Brouillette
3. C. M. Brouillette
4. J. Brouillette
5. J. Brouillette
6. Roger Wilkins Sr.
7. Connie Helmer
8. Betty Bault
9. Rufus Bault
10. Raymond J. Lombas
11. Milton Lombas
12. Edward W. Cannon
13. Marie J. Cannon
14. William Cannon
15. Jeremy P. Oarda
16. Amelia Jackson
17. Leroy Coppage
18. Adam D. Perrin
19. Shirley Perrin
20. Buddi Savar
21. Linda Cappel
22. Michael Cappel
23. Manton Terbonne SR.
24. Jimmy Terbonne SR.
25. Aelitta C. Pyani
26. Linda O. Coulson
27. Karli A. Coulson Sr.
28. Troy Sevin
29. Lane Coe
30. ~~James Coe~~
31. Edward Cantalero
32. Ted Mando
33. Philip Gilbert
34. Thaci Hsley
35. Roxana Victoriano
36. Chris Victoriano
37. Brad Penouff
38. Russell J. Bault Jr.
39. R. B. Bault
40. Kandace Bault
41. Nancy Helmer
42. Georgia Terrel
43. Louis Terrel Jr.
44. S. W. Adams Jr.
45. Carol Adams
46. Tom Adams
47. Adam Adams
48. John Adams
49. Raleigh S. Bullis Jr.
50. Don Pundy

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. William Adams
2. Sheryl Adams
3. Shantelle A. Adams
4. Robert Lewis
5. Jules Nunez
6. Randy Nunez
7. Chris B. Adams
8. Tracy Simmons
9. Louis Adams Jr
10. Pauline Robear
11. Dorothea Adams
12. Curtis Rowan
13. Clayton Kuppel
14. Felij Tremie
15. David L. Belome
16. Gary Erlinger
17. Faitha Erlinger
18. Leroy Repine
19. Nathan Rogers
20. Peggy Rogers
21. Boby Janel
22. Chad M. Rogers
23. Nathaniel Adams
24. Beth Nunez
25. Warren Alford
26. Colby Creppel
27. Michael L. Bausse
28. Glen J. Otero Jr.
29. RANDY SIMMONS
30. Rob Bourgeois
31. Harold Simmons
32. Joe Rogers Jr.
33. Louella Nunez
34. Sandy Otero
35. Darla Rojas
36. Derrell Belome Jr.
37. Derrell Belome Jr.
38. Dusty Otero
39. M. Ryan J.
40. Klump J. Helbert
41. Carlene Belome
42. Ginger Belome
43. DARMELL DOMICK
44. Chris Heaney
45. Rusty Otero
46. Jerry Moll Jr.
47. Benny J. Lopez
48. Keith P. Fassi
49. Diane Tassin
50. Glen Otero Jr.

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Juan Perry
2. Cindy Perry
3. Don & Kizgin
4. Claudie Helmer
5. Jake Grayline
6. Kathleen Tolson
7. Thomas & Olivia A.
8. Potts Higgins
9. Tommy Robeaux
10. Janette Duprene
11. Quin C. Gibbs
12. Anthony Dantim
13. Malvin Pizani
14. Pamela C. Calabre
15. Wanda C. Broadway
16. Robert Perrin
17. Carlos Lopez
18. Sherry Jenkins
19. Mary Joergensen
20. Sal Pellegrino
21. Pete Lust
22. Chris Lee
23. Jerry Perrin
24. Marilyn Higgins
25. Blanka Volio
26. Ray Mathews
27. Joey Melanson
28. Hilton Duprene
29. Alberto C. Pizani
30. Angela Basse
31. Heidi Christen
32. Gannell Croft
33. Truman Wilfong
34. Calvin Sebean Jr.
35. Larry Helmer
36. Blaise Appeldo
37. Jung Jorenseel
38. Brad Scott
39. Harold Sanders
40. Diana Mathews
41. Lanny A. Higgins
42. Fred C. Votz
43. Michael & Harley Jr.
44. Susa B. Hanley
45. ~~John P. Math~~
46. ~~Archie Mathews~~
47. Carol Ferguson
48. John L. Randoski
49. Jeff Lisclair
50. ~~John P. Math~~
51. Jerry Purce

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. *Margo Perrin* 26.
2. *Eric V. Escalade* 27.
3. *Tracie Rudolph* 28.
4. *Klize Perrin Jr.* 29.
5. *Marge Helmer* 30.
6. *Darrin Helmer* 31.
7. *Karl Helmer* 32.
8. *Annie Helmer* 33.
9. *VERNON CHRISTEN SR.* 34.
10. *Albert J. Cress* 35.
11. *Datsy Cress* 36.
12. *Eric F. Dufur* 37.
13. *William H. Harvey Jr* 38.
14. *Lon J. Harvey* 39.
15. *Carlene Selsome* 40.
16. *Derrell Dornick* 41.
17. *Georgi Selsome* 42.
18. *Derrell Selsome Sr* 43.
19. *Derrell Selsome Jr* 44.
20. *Jay Martin* 45.
21. 46.
22. 47.
23. 48.
24. 49.
25. 50.

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. Ellen Rodriguez
2. Anna R. Harvey
3. Russell Rodriguez
4. Mary Jo Burgos
5. Edward A. Escalade
6. Brenda Adams
7. Carl J. Zar
8. William Elliott
9. Vincent Rojas
10. Kirk A. Penn
11. Timothy J. Keenan
12. Calvin Le Beau
13. Patsy Le Beau
14. Yvette Crain
15. Blanche Besselle
16. ~~Carl B. Jones~~
17. ~~Carl B. Jones~~
18. Clarence Mathews Jr
19. Charles R. Caulfield
20. ~~Dan J. Hill~~
21. ~~Don R. J. Thas~~
22. Brian Le Beau
23. ~~Carl B. Jones~~
24. Jerry Verdin SA.
25. Lee C. Gros
26. Mrs Velma Gros
27. Christian J. Rodriguez
28. Maurell Rodriguez
29. Ray Trumogard
30. Jennie Marti
31. Verna C. Smith
32. Albert Smith
33. Verna Rojas
34. Cindy P. Gros
35. ~~Chuck Suter~~
36. Shirley Duillie
37. ~~Charles Duillie~~
38. Danielle Rodriguez
39. ~~Bolin H. Hickey Sr.~~
40. Vanessa Rodriguez
41. Alexis Helbert
42. Eva Alepie
43. Jules Alepie Sr.
44. Mary Maggard
45. ~~main jr~~
46. Jerry Perris
47. Jan Smith
48. ~~Rayell Adams~~
49. ~~Frank Wyma~~
50. Frank Wyma

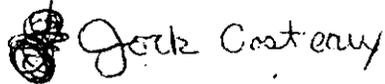
WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Marion M. Walton      | 26. Gerald Austin     |
| 2. Murphy R. Walton      | 27. Rita Meyers       |
| 3. Damon Ogden           | 28. Josephine Meyers  |
| 4. Charles Guisberg      | 29. Alice Meyers      |
| 5. Brenda C. Adam        | 30. Herbert Eckste    |
| 6. John Edits            | 31. Frances Juncos    |
| 7. Eleanor Brunst        | 32. Whitney Lomas     |
| 8. Angie Helmer          | 33. Albert Munch      |
| 9. Darrin Helmer         | 34. Deborah Pohrbaker |
| 10. Wendy Helmer         | 35. Monica Basse      |
| 11. Michael Helmer       | 36. Joseph Basse Jr.  |
| 12. J. H. Holt           | 37.                   |
| 13. Dorothy Wade         | 38.                   |
| 14. Arnold Kowen         | 39.                   |
| 15. Robert Wade          | 40.                   |
| 16. Francis Smith        | 41.                   |
| 17. Deborah Pohrbaker    | 42.                   |
| 18. Joe Eckste           | 43.                   |
| 19. Anah Lopez           | 44.                   |
| 20. Matthew Viet         | 45.                   |
| 21. Jenna Caminita       | 46.                   |
| 22. John A. Caminita III | 47.                   |
| 23. Salma Pilon          | 48.                   |
| 24. Allison Lucas        | 49.                   |
| 25. Delores Austin       | 50.                   |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

1. *Leonard Parvia Sr* 26.
2. *David G. Blarney* 27.
3. *Henda Parvia* 28.
4. *JUDY BELSOME* 29.
5. *Jarren W. Bolotte* 30.
6. *Snell G. Fricks* 31.
7. *John Zan* 32.
8. *Joey Horn* 33.
9. *Stephen Palby Sr.* 34.
10. *Malcolm Desjany* 35.
11. *Wilton Coulon* 36.
12. *Allen Coulon Sr.* 37.
13. *Tom Parvia* 38.
14. *Shrian K Rutkey* 39.
15. *Dorsey Pizani* 40.
16. *Eric J. Fricks* 41.
17. *Mike Lane* 42.
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WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15,1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15,1995.

1.  26.
2. 27.
3. 28.
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WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE-TWO AND ZONE TWO-ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15,1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15,1995.

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Gareth R LeBlanc Sr, | 26. Richey Mathew |
| 2. Syron Legzary Sr.    | 27.               |
| 3. Angelini LeBlanc     | 28.               |
| 4. Tim LeBlanc          | 29.               |
| 5. Crum Adams           | 30.               |
| 6.                      | 31.               |
| 7.                      | 32.               |
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| 25.                     | 50.               |

WE THE PEOPLE OF ZONE TWO AND ZONE TWO ONLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
THE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPEN ANYTIME BEFORE MAY 15, 1995 BUT  
NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, 1995.

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**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure~~x~~ Act and R.S. 56:6(25)a, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit shrimping between official sunset and official sunrise in the inside waters as described in R.S. 56:495 from the western side of the Atchafalaya River Channel out to Eugene Island to the western shore of Vermillion Bay, not to include Southwest Pass at Marsh Island south of a line drawn from the following points:

The western side of Southwest Pass at its northwestern point to the Green Light Channel Marker Number 9, at latitude 29<sup>0</sup>36'58" longitude 92<sup>0</sup>00'21", thence northeast to Green Light Channel Marker Number 1, at latitude 29<sup>0</sup>37'34" longitude 91<sup>0</sup>59'36", thence southeast to the eastern side of Big Charles Bayou, at latitude 29<sup>0</sup>36'54" longitude 91<sup>0</sup>59'00", thence southwesterly to the western shore of Big Charles Bayou, at latitude 29<sup>0</sup>36'50" longitude 91<sup>0</sup>59'12".

This rule shall be in effect for the 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

Chairman,  
La. Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commission

Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Dept. of Wildlife and  
Fisheries



04-Apr-95

	License Year			
	1994	1993	1992	License
Resident Mullet	674	547	672	License
N/R Mullet	130	94	178	License
Res. Saltwater Gill Net	1017	900	831	License
N/R Saltwater Gill Net	127	85	76	License
Res. Trammel Net	489	486	493	License
N/R Trammel Net	13	10	9	License
Res. Fish Seine	196	184	218	License
N/R Fish Seine	0	1	2	License

License Type	1995					TOTAL	1994					TOTAL	1993					TOTAL
	11/94	12/94	1/95	2/95	3/95		11/93	12/93	1/94	2/94	3/94		11/92	12/92	1/93	2/93	3/93	
Resident Mullet	59	122	92	15	24	312	30	86	81	16	14	227	18	54	50	16	19	157
N/R Mullet	3	9	17	6	6	41	1	5	5	0	0	11	0	7	0	2	1	10
Res. Saltwater Gill Net	87	288	227	47	55	704	49	239	225	62	32	607	48	204	195	58	65	570
N/R Saltwater Gill Net	3	10	17	4	5	39	1	5	6	0	0	12	0	4	1	2	1	8
Res. Trammel Net	56	131	142	43	37	409	24	133	144	69	37	407	31	158	114	61	38	402
N/R Trammel Net	0	4	1	4	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Res. Fish Seine	18	54	38	10	10	130	10	46	42	22	13	133	9	44	38	12	13	116
N/R Fish Seine	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1



# St. Bernard Parish Government

8201 West Judge Perez Drive • Chalmette, LA 70043  
(504) 278-4200 • Fax (504) 271-7343

copy: Herring  
Risset  
Roussel  
Blanchet

## PRESIDENT

Lynn Dixon  
8404 Colonel Drive  
Chalmette, LA 70043

April 3, 1995

## PARISH COUNCIL

Daniel L. Dysart  
Councilman At Large  
3512 Corinne Avenue  
Chalmette, LA 70043

LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Service  
400 Royal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

Charles H. Panstein  
Councilman At Large  
P.O. Box 920  
3316 Daille Street  
Chalmette, LA 70043

Dear Sir:

Calvin E. Callals  
Councilman, District A  
1201 Perrin Drive  
Arabi, LA 70032

Enclosed is certified copy of Resolution SBPC #586-03-95 adopted by the St. Bernard Parish Council at its meeting of March 21, 1995 supporting a moratorium on saltwater finfish license sales for three years in which time a limited entry program could be established.

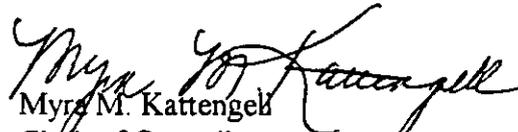
Clay A. Cossé  
Councilman, District B  
219 West Urquhart Street  
Chalmette, LA 70043

The Council respectfully urges and requests your support of the above stated resolution.

Scott Wolfe  
Councilman, District C  
3409 Palmisano Boulevard  
Chalmette, LA 70043

Yours truly,

James J. Uccardi, Jr.  
Councilman, District D  
3100 Jacob Drive  
Chalmette, LA 70043

  
Myra M. Kattengel  
Clerk of Council

Henry J. Rodriguez, Jr.  
Councilman, District E  
P.O. Box 397  
St. Bernard, LA 70085

MMK/lwd  
ref:finfish



# St. Bernard Parish Government

8201 West Judge Perez Drive • Chalmette, LA 70043  
(504) 278-4200 • Fax (504) 271-7343

#8

## PRESIDENT

Lynn Dean  
8404 Colonel Drive  
Chalmette, LA 70043

## PARISH COUNCIL

Daniel L. Dysart  
Councilman At Large  
3512 Corinne Avenue  
Chalmette, LA 70043

Charles H. Ponstein  
Councilman At Large  
P.O. Box 920  
3316 Delille Street  
Chalmette, LA 70043

Calvin E. Callais  
Councilman, District A  
1201 Parlin Drive  
Arabi, LA 70032

Clay A. Cossé  
Councilman, District B  
219 West Urquhart Street  
Chalmette, LA 70043

Scott Wolfe  
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3409 Palmisano Boulevard  
Chalmette, LA 70043

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Chalmette, LA 70043

Henry J. Rodriguez, Jr.  
Councilman, District E  
P.O. Box 397  
St. Bernard, LA 70085

EXTRACT OF THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT BUILDING, 8201 WEST JUDGE PEREZ DRIVE CHALMETTE, LOUISIANA ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1995 AT SEVEN (7:00) O' CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Mr. Callais, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, it was moved to ADOPT the following resolution:

## RESOLUTION SBPC #586-03-95

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A MORATORIUM ON SALTWATER FINFISH LICENSE SALES FOR THREE YEARS IN WHICH TIME A LIMITED ENTRY PROGRAM COULD BE ESTABLISHED

WHEREAS, the commercial fishing industry is a vital part of the economy of St. Bernard Parish as well as the economy of the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the commercial fishing industry has a guaranteed right to fish in their historical and customary manner under Title 56 Sec 640.3, ie. the use of nets; and

WHEREAS, there are 997 registered licensed commercial fishermen in St. Bernard Parish who employ at least 2 men per license holder, and have an average of 2.7 family members per household; and

WHEREAS, if the use of nets were prohibited in saltwater areas of the state, it would have a drastic negative financial effect on the fishing industry which would be felt throughout all other industries in the parish as well as the state; and

WHEREAS, if the use of nets were prohibited in saltwater areas of the state, it would end years of heritage and culture through an industry that has supported the area even before it was a state; and

WHEREAS, according to La. Wildlife & Fisheries biologists, there exists no biological reason to ban nets. (1) The fish resources are strong and growing under the present system; (2) Gill nets are the most selective gear used to harvest a targeted species; and

WHEREAS, certain recreational groups are supporting measures to ban nets to gain total access of the fish resource (which is in total contradiction of the finfish management policy and standards which states each user group shall be provided a fair and justifiable allocation of the resource provided that the resources is healthy - which it is.); and

WHEREAS, a remote possibility exists whereby because of its healthy fish resource, Louisiana may experience an increase in saltwater finfish licenses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Parish of St. Bernard, State of Louisiana, the governing authority does hereby support the Louisiana Seafood Management Council's plan for a moratorium on saltwater finfish license sales for three years in which time a limited entry program could be established; and



# St. Bernard Parish Government

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(504) 278-4200 • Fax (504) 271-7343

**PRESIDENT**

**Lynn Dean**  
8404 Colonel Drive  
Chalmette, LA 70043

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**Daniel I. Dysart**  
Councilman At Large  
3512 Corinne Avenue  
Chalmette, LA 70043

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P.O. Box 920  
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1201 Perin Drive  
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**Henry J. Rodriguez, Jr.**  
Councilman, District E  
P.O. Box 397  
St. Bernard, LA 70085

Page -2-  
Extract #8 continued  
March 21, 1995

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Senator Samuel Nunez, Representatives Thomas Warner and Kenneth Odinet, and Louisiana State Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

The above and foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereupon resulted as follows:

**YEAS:** Callais, Cosse, Wolfe, Dysart, Licciardi and Rodriguez..

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** None.

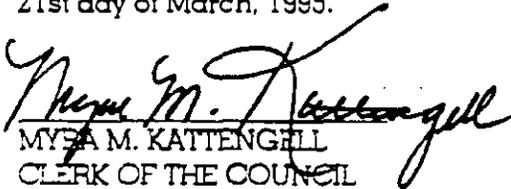
The Chairman, Mr. Ponstein, cast his vote as **YEA**.

And the motion was declared **ADOPTED** on the 21st day of March, 1995.

## CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a motion adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Parish of St. Bernard, held at Chalmette, Louisiana, on Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Witness my hand and the seal of the Parish of St. Bernard on this 21st day of March, 1995.

  
MYRA M. KATTENGELL  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Suggested Changes to the Muzzleloader Season

<b>DEER HUNTING SCHEDULE</b>
------------------------------

AREA	ARCHERY	STILL HUNT	MUZZLELOADER (All Either Sex)	WITH OR WITHOUT DOGS
1	Oct. 1-Jan. 31	Nov. 18-Dec. 1 Jan. 5-Jan. 15	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	Dec. 9-Jan. 4
2	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Oct. 28-Dec. 1	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	Dec. 9-Jan. 4
3	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Oct. 21-Dec. 1 Dec. 16-Jan. 4	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	
4	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Nov. 18-Dec. 1 Dec. 9-Jan. 7	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	
5	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Nov. 18-Nov. 26	Dec. 2-Dec. 8 BUCKS ONLY	
6	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Nov. 18-Dec. 1	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	Dec. 9-Jan. 21
7	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Oct. 21-Nov. 5 Nov. 18-Nov. 26	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	Dec. 16-Jan. 21
8	Oct. 1-Jan. 21	Nov. 18-Dec. 1 Jan. 5-Jan. 21	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	Dec. 9-Jan. 4

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

## SPECIAL USE PERMIT

### SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

Description: See attached map of north and south farms.

#### Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
  - 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
  - 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
  - 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
  - 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Louisiana Wild Stamp.
  - 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.
  - 7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.
  - 8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.
  - 9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational  
\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial
- Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Regulations  
Crawfish Harvest on Agricultural Lands  
Sherburne Wildlife Management Area

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages, as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the WMA, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of leveed impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farm, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife.
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts.
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features.
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a Louisiana Wild Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Violations of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm:

Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The farmed tract and the remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1-July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (see Attachment 1).

South Farm:

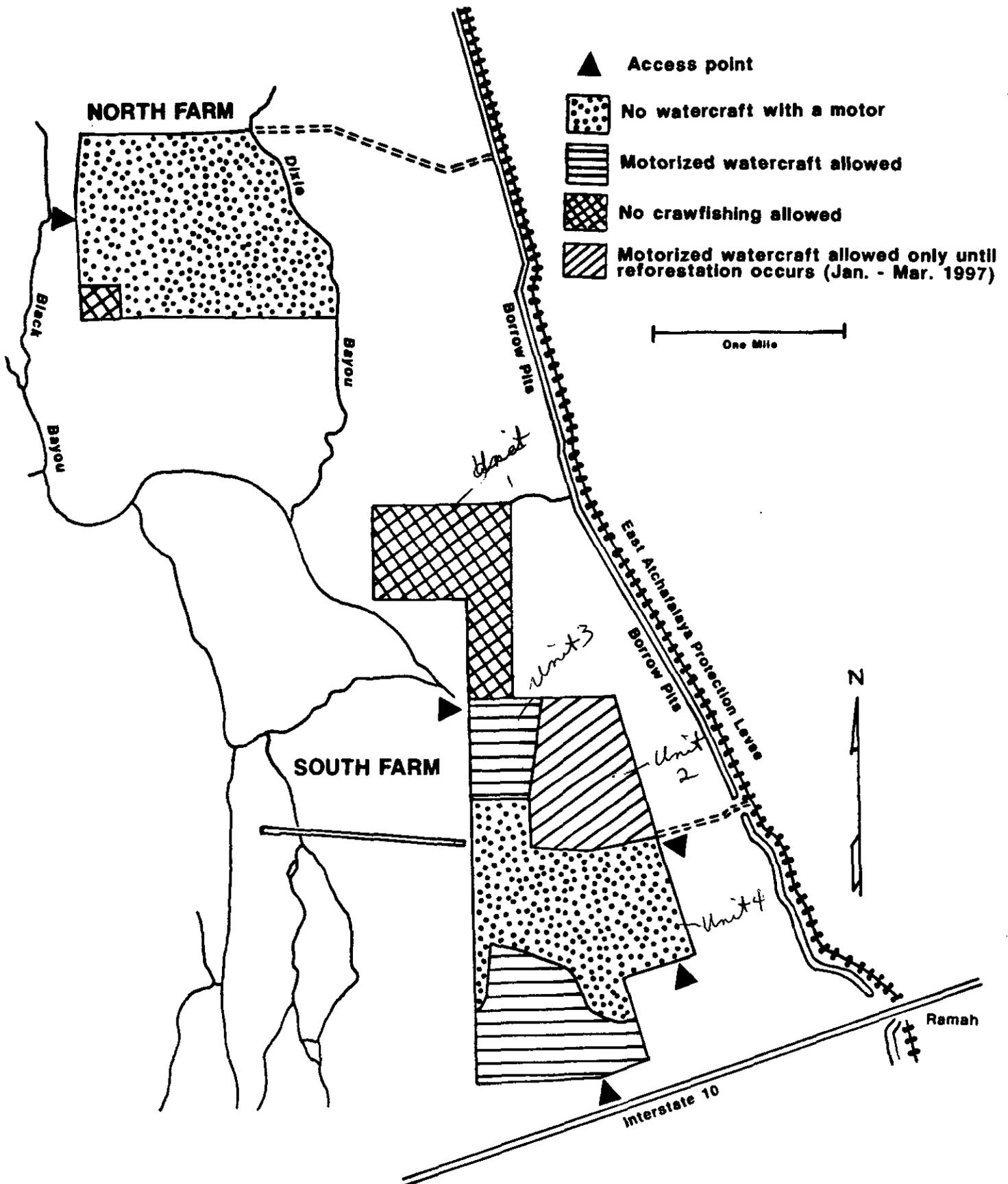
Acreage on this farm totals 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows:

- Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

- Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.
- Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - NO watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment feature.
- Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of South Farm is at designated points only, crawfish harvesting permitted from April 1 - July 31 (see Attachment 1).

# SHERBURNE WMA CRAWFISH HARVEST PLAN



RESOLUTION

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Department is responsible for both the management of the wildlife resources and habitats and providing opportunities for the citizens of Louisiana to enjoy these resources on the Department's Wildlife Management Areas, and

WHEREAS, there are times that wildlife management and public use are incompatible, and

WHEREAS, the Department has planned a unique and important wetland project on the agricultural lands associated with Sherburne WMA, and

WHEREAS, this Department is being assisted financially with this project by Ducks Unlimited and Exxon Corporation, and

WHEREAS, unrestricted crawfishing on this portion of Sherburne WMA will negatively impact this important project, and

WHEREAS, the Department does not desire to completely restrict recreational or commercial crawfishing activities on these agricultural lands, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached rules governing crawfishing activities on Sherburne WMA by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Notice of Intent is also being submitted in order to establish a permanent rule concerning this issue through the Administrative Procedure Act.

---

Perry Gisclair, Chairman  
Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commission

---

Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
Department of Wildlife  
and Fisheries

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R. S. 56:109, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the WMA, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife.
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts.
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features.
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a La. Wild Stamp. Recreational harvesters are

limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset. Violations of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm:

Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor.

The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1-July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

South Farm:

Acreage on this farm total 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfishing harvesting permitted from April 1-July 31 (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

Description: Contact the Opelousas office for maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hours before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Louisiana Wild Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.

7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.

8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational

\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial

Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Commission finds crawfishing similar to that experienced in 1994 will negatively impact reforestation efforts, cause user conflicts and disturb wildlife. It is also possible that the loss of a valuable timber resource might occur. This Declaration of Emergency will provide for both commercial and recreational crawfishing without negatively impacting wildlife or timber resources. The Commission will take the necessary steps to establish permanent rules for crawfishing on this property by means of normal rule making processes.

Perry Gisclair

Chairman

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 promulgate a rule governing both recreational and commercial crawfishing on agricultural lands within the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.

Title 76  
Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life.

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing.

Section 177. Crawfishing on agricultural lands within Sherburne WMA.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries manages as part of Sherburne Wildlife Management Area, two agriculture units owned in fee title by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These two tracts are located on the eastern portion of the WMA, near Ramah. Extensive land development in the form of levee impoundments, water control structures, and reforestation is planned on both of these farms to manage favorable habitat for wildlife. Due to the high interest in crawfish harvesting on the above mentioned farms, the following measures will be put in place and enforced to:

1. Minimize disturbance to wildlife.
2. Protect present and future reforestation efforts.
3. Prevent damage to impoundment features.
4. Allow utilization of crawfish resources for both recreational and commercial interests in a manner to avoid user conflicts.

Persons wishing to harvest crawfish on these farms will be required to obtain a permit from the La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Each commercial harvester is assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps. All persons harvesting crawfish

recreationally from the ages of 16-59 years old must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or a La. Wild Stamp. Recreational harvesters are limited to 100 pounds per boat per day. All crawfish harvesting will be allowed only between the hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset. Violations of any restrictions which apply to this permit will result in the permit being canceled in addition to any citations issued for the offense. The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish. Guidelines are as follows:

North Farm:

Acreage on this farm totals 800 acres. The entire farm will be impounded for waterfowl management. The eastern one-third of the property (289.7 acres) will continue to be farmed. If water conditions preclude farming operations, crawfishing activities will be restricted to watercraft without a motor. The remaining uncropped acreage (410.7 acres) will be open to crawfishing April 1-July 31. No watercraft with a motor will be allowed. Entry into ponds for crawfishing will be at designated points only (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

South Farm:

Acreage on this farm total 1,600 acres. This farm is divided into 4 units as follows.

Unit 1 - Closed to crawfishing - Reforestation areas will be off limits to all crawfish harvesting activities to protect tree seedlings.

Unit 2 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with motor will be allowed in this unit.

Unit 3 - Crawfishing permitted - No watercraft with a motor will be

allowed in this unit for the protection of waterfowl impoundment features.

Unit 4 - Crawfishing permitted - Watercraft with a motor will be allowed in this unit.

Entry into all units of south farm is at designated points only, crawfishing harvesting permitted from April 1-July 31 (Contact the Opelousas office for maps).

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SHERBURNE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD OF USE: From \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

Description: Contact the Opelousas office for maps.

Special Conditions:

- 1 - Crawfish harvesting allowed from April 1 to July 31 only.
- 2 - Motorized watercraft allowed in designated areas only.
- 3 - Entry into farm at designated points only.
- 4 - Crawfish harvesting only between 1/2 hours before sunrise to 1/2 hours after sunset.
- 5 - Recreational harvesting limited to 100 pounds live crawfish per boat per day. All recreational harvesters from the ages of 16-59 must possess either a fishing license, hunting license, or Louisiana Wild Stamp.
- 6 - Commercial harvesters are assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee and each permittee is allowed one helper. Permittee must be present to run traps.
- 7 - By signing this permit, permittee agrees to abide by all special

regulations. Any violation of WMA rules and regulations will result in cancellation of permit.

8 - The production and harvest of crawfish is incidental to water levels maintained to manage for a diversity of wildlife species. Water levels will not be maintained solely for crawfish production and/or harvesting, nor is there any assurance that the water levels controlled for wildlife will yield crawfish.

9 - \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational

\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial

Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:109, <sup>56761</sup>

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR21 : ( ).

Perry Gisclair

Chairman

Interested parties may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m. August 4, 1995 to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898.

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in order to ensure and accelerate the establishment of black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish, do hereby enact the following emergency rule:

Effective May 4, 1995, it shall be unlawful to retain or possess black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has recently (March 23, 1995) stocked 100 adult black bass broodstock of the Florida strain into John K. Kelly-Grand River Reservoir (Red River Parish). This stocking was made pre-spawn in an effort to introduce Florida bass genes into the lake at the time of impoundment. This closure will assure that the fish remain in the Reservoir for at least two spawning seasons. The failure to immediately close the reservoir to the retention or possession of black bass constitutes an imminent peril to the public welfare as this will result in substantial losses to the Florida black bass broodstock.

Perry Gisclair

Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby advertises its intent to establish a rule for possession of black bass in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§179. Black Bass Regulations - John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir

It shall be unlawful to retain or possess black bass (Micropterus spp.) in John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir located in Red River Parish. This rule will expire at midnight, May 31, 1997.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Mr. Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr., Administrator, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 5, 1995.

Perry Gisclair

Chairman

**RESOLUTION**  
**JOHN K. KELLY - GRAND BAYOU RESERVOIR COMMISSION**  
**MARCH 27, 1995**

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has stocked the John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir with one-hundred (100) Brood Florida Bass to populate the Reservoir with Florida Bass.

AND WHEREAS, it is necessary to protect these fish to allow them to spawn and stock said Reservoir;

AND WHEREAS, it is necessary that all bass fishing be prohibited in the Reservoir until further Resolution by this Commission;

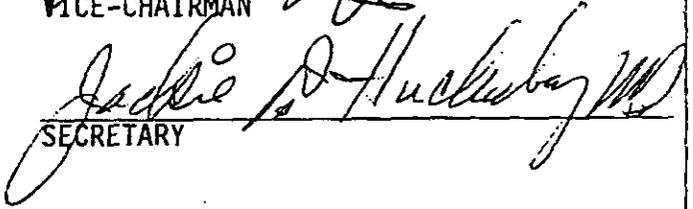
AND WHEREAS, it is necessary that the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries agents be authorized and empowered to enforce this Resolution;

AND WHEREAS, the enforcement of said resolution requires the cooperation of the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries;

THEREFORE, be it enacted by the John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir Commission that no bass fishing shall be allowed in the Reservoir until further action of this Commission and that said action be enforced by the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries agents.

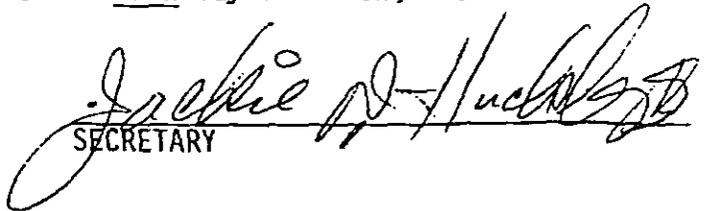
THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this the 27th day of March, 1995.

  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

  
SECRETARY

**CERTIFICATE**

I, Secretary of the John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir Commission do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of the Resolution passed by the said Commission on this the 27th day of March, 1995.

  
SECRETARY

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby advertises its intent to amend a rule for black bass size regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin and the Lake Verret Area.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§165. Black Bass Regulations - Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area

It shall be unlawful to take or possess, while on the water or while fishing in the water, black bass less than 14 inches in total length in the area south of U.S. 190 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to the intersection of LA 1 and U.S. 190 due north of Port Allen, east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee from U.S. 190 to U.S. 90, north of U.S. 90 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to LA 20, north and west of LA 20 from U.S. 90 to LA 1 in Thibodaux, south and west of LA 1 from LA 20 to U.S. 190. This rule will expire at midnight, September 30, 1997.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:<sup>+ 325.C</sup>~~326.30K~~

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 19:361 (March 1993), amended L.R.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the amended rule to Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr, Administrator, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton

Rouge, LA 70898-9000 no later than 4:30 PM, Wednesday, July 5,  
1995.

Chairman

March 16, 1991

Mr. Joseph Cormier  
Member, LWFC

Dear Mr. Cormier,

- Sometime 1986 - Some people who were to eventually become members of the Black Bass Task Force began meeting to try to change the bass regulations in Louisiana. This was revealed by task force member Brett Barham at a task force meeting.
- July - 1986 - LDWF conducts a statewide scientific survey in which 69% of bass fishermen say they favor a 15 fish limit. 22% say they prefer a 10 fish or less limit. LDWF honors the majorities' wishes and leaves the limit at 15.
- summer - 1988 - The word "quality" is introduced to la. fishermen. Within the span of a few months, most la. outdoor media are starting to use the terms "quality bass" and "quality bass fishing".
- Sometime 1988 - The Black Bass Task Force was being staffed during this time. Although tournament fishermen represent less than 10% of La. bass fishermen, of the 9 (number fluctuated) members who were to represent the user groups, all were tournament fishermen except one, and all belonged to at least one organized club. There was no random selection; in one way or another, all were hand-picked.
- Oct. 25 1988 - LDWF releases press release no. 88-104, dated 10-25-88, to announce the 10-27-88 (first meeting) of the Black Bass Task Force. Up to this point, the name Black Bass Task Force had never appeared on the outdoor pages of the Baton Rouge papers. The Tuesday release was too late for the Thursday meeting to have been announced in the prior Sunday Advocate, and its appearance in the State Times (evening paper) was too late for most who went to work that day to have made the 6:30 pm meeting. Moreover, the release did not even say the public was invited.

- Dec. 21 1988 - Bennie Fontenot at a Task Force meeting said, "I believe we could pass a 12 in min. size and reduced creel of 10 so fast our heads would spin. I just don't know what i could tell that committee what that would accomplish."
- Mar. 3, 1989 - Jerry Clarks' appointment as Ffirst Asst. Sec. to the Office of Fisheries is announced.
- Later in 1989 - At a Black Bass Task Force meeting, Jerry Clark said, "If they come to me --- and say they want to eat bass, I'll say, no ! Eat catfish --- and crappie".
- Jan. 4, 1990 - In a Mike Cook article in the Jan. 4, 1994 state times, LDWF biologist Tim Morrison said, "The freshwater fish division, with help from the black Bass Task Force, has been working on a state bass fishery management plan for several months and a draft copy will be released next week. Until then, the recommendations are a closely guarded secret, known only to about 20 people."
- Jan. 1990 - The first page of the draft copy of the Black Bass Management Plan had the statement, "In order for a reduction in the creel limit to effect a change in the size structure of a bass population, it would have to be reduced to 1 or 2 fish, unacceptably restrictive." This statement was vouched for by the fishery depts. of 7 other southern states as true and as basic fish science. Yet, House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Randy Roach said, in the Morning Advocate of June 21, 1991 that "The reason for the (reduction of the) limit is to develop larger fish".
- 1989-1990 - Interesting words and prases began to be used by some proponents of the impending changes in the bass regulations to describe people who eat bass. Among these were fishkillers, frying pan and skillet (users), meat-hogs, (those with) ice chest syndrome, white bucketeers, greedy, slobs, selfish, looters etc.
- Jan. 11, 1990 - The first version of the Black Bass Management Plan was revealed by LDWF.
- Jan. 11, 1990 - Mike Cook in the state times said the 15 biologists who drafted the plan acknowledged the changes are so different from present regulations an education program will be necessary.

- Jan. 18, 1990 - In a Mike Cook State Times article, tournament fisherman Don Mckutcheon of B.A.S.S. asked about possible permits in which catch and release tournaments would not be required to follow slot regulations.
- Feb. 28, 1990 - The last of statewide public hearings ordered by the LWFC on the bass plan was held in Lafayette. The ostensible reason for the hearings was to find out what the public thought about the plan. But instead of each person at the hearings having the opportunity to indicate his wishes on a ballot, LDWF devised a plan whereby the ratio of people for or against the plan was based on the ratio of how many spoke for or against the plan.  
Thus it would be possible that at a meeting where 100 fishermen were present, and 80% were against the plan; if four people spoke for the plan and two against, LDWF would report to the LWFC that twice as many were for the plan as against it. Those for the plan were privy to this arrangement; those opposing it were not.
- Mar. 15, 1990 - Mike cook announces in the state times that LDWFs' proposed Black Bass Management Plan has been put on hold. --Cook also quotes Jerry Clark as saying, " Minimum size is not appropriate for La. We'd end up with smaller fish. If we had a 14 in. minimum, there'd be no way for many fish to get above 14 inches.
- Mar.-may 1990 - While the bass plan was put on hold, LDWF surveys were mailed to 7,362 recreational fishermen. This survey revealed that almost 90% of fishermen were moderately to extremely satisfied with fishing in La.
- Oct. 25, 1990 - In the Thursday State Times, Mike Cook reveals that LDWF sponsored legislation has been passed that will allow tournament fishermen to be given the special privilege of catching and using slot limit bass in their tournaments.
- Oct. 25, 1990 - Mike Cook in the Thursday State Times said, the Black Bass Management Plan is back as plan 2, bearing little ressemblance to the original plan which received a cool reception in a series of public hearings around the state. note: Actually, there had not been much change. The trophy and quality lakes were essentially the same, and the salient

change was that the proposed slot-limit had been replaced by a reduction in the state-wide creel from 15 to 8. This creel reduction was justified at a Black Bass Task Force meeting by Jerry Clark, who after acknowledging that there was no shortage of bass in the state, said it was being done to "send a message".

- Nov. 1, 1990 - In the Thursday State Times, Mike Cook said, "There doesn't seem to be anything wrong with the plan that can't be fixed with a little fine tuning. Nothing proposed has ever satisfied everyone --- and never will. It shouldn't have to; pleasing the majority should be sufficient.
- Feb. 1, 1990 - the House Natural Resources Committee approves the La. Black Bass Management plan.
- Mar. 7, 1991 - The LWFC ratifies the La. Black Bass Management plan.
- Aug. 7, 1991 - In a Times Picayune article, Jerry Clark said, "My department has been tied up for months by legislators trying to undo what the vast majority of fishermen have said they want". He was talking about the opposition to the reduction of the 15 fish limit to 10. In the 1986 (last at that time) survey which asked a preference for creel limits, that "vast majority" who wanted a 10 fish or less creel limit was 22% of the bass fishermen.
- Feb. 3, 1992 - because I could find no one other than task force members who had attended the meetings, I requested from LDWF the press releases for the 12 Black Bass Task Force meetings. I received 3. when I requested the rest, I was told with no uncertainty (on separate occasions) by two LDWF employees there were no more; that only 3 had been issued for the 12 meetings. When I asked how the public was supposed to know when and where the meetings were so they could attend, I was told by one of the two that a notice had been posted on the front door at LDWF headquarters at Quail Drive.
- Mar. 1, 1992 - Joe Macaluso in the sunday advocate said, "Pelican Bass Club went to the Belle River public landing and found murky water RRd rain hindering its second to last tournament---. The weights were first rate. Roy Hernandez and Roy Thornton teamed to catch 6 bass weighing 26 lbs. 6 oz., a 4 lb. 6 1/2 oz. average.

- May 28, 1992 - In The Advocate of May, 1992 Joe Macaluso says, "Could it get any better? ----- the atchafayala spillway is, without question, the best place to go for both species (bass and sac-a-lait) .
- Aug. 1992 - LDWF estimates 5 million bass killed by Hurricane Andrew in spillway.
- Sept 20, 1992 - In an article in The Advocate, Joe Macaluso and several fishing sportsmens' organizations call for a total ban on fishing in the Spillway and Lake Verret areas.
- Oct. 1992 - the LWFC establishes a 14 in. minimum length limit on Basin Bass.
- Feb. 2, 1995 - the Thursday outdoor page of The Advocate said, "14 in. limit on basin bass may be extended." LDWF was to present a program on possible basin management to the "Black Bass Advisory Council". This was a "same bunch" but "different name" organization that consisted of many of the same old special interest groups represented on the Black Bass Task Force, such as A.L.B.C., L.B.B.U. and B.A.S.S. .
- Feb. 1995 - I wrote Joe Herring a letter and revealed to him what I had been told in Feb. 1992 about the news releases for the task force meetings. I was merely seeking official verification as I had no reason to believe I was misl-led when told there were only 3 press releases. Mr. Herring did not say that other releases ever existed, only that he could not furnish the releases because "some of our older files were burned in the fire we had in 1993" This is interesting for two reasons : 1. The fire had not occurred in 1992 when I got the 3 other files, so why wasn't I given them then ? and 2. the releases I was furnished were for the first, fourth and last of the twelve meetings. was the fire selective in which releases it burned ?

I think it would be difficult to read the above and not believe that LDWF has had an agenda for the last seven years, and that that agenda has not a whit of concern about what the majority of the fishermen desire. It appears that LDWFs' desires mesh with those of many of the organized tournament organizations and with many of those in the outdoor media.

A careful critique of the utilization of past fishery surveys (except for the 1986 survey) will also cause one to believe the surveys are used primarily to find out how much opposition LDWF will encounter as they continue to ignore the majority in freshwater fishery matters.

Something is seriously flawed in an organization that will set up a hand-picked task force, pronounce that task force as representing a cross-section of La. bass fishermen, (which it did not) and then put some of its members at risk of jail terms and fines for violating the open meeting laws of this state.

Many who now have a forum in the baton rouge paper say the hurricane was really a blessing because it let us know just how precious and fragile our basin is. What they really mean is it provided an excuse to institute a regulation that they hope they can persuade the LWFC to continue even after the need for it is gone.

There are several reasons to believe that the surveys done in the basin do not accurately represent how most of the fishermen feel.

1. They are not scientific. (ask LDWF)
2. Most people who do not enjoy catch and release fishing had no reason to go to the basin, so the results would have been flawed.
3. In light of the extremes LDWF went to to get the Black Bass plan passed, is there any reason to believe they will act in a more responsible manner now ?

Another argument being promoted for the extension of the regulation is that the bigger the bass, the better chance the species has of surviving. It might be interesting to note that the artificial production of big bass actually results in a decrease in the viability of the species. The explanation for this is simple.

1. Nature abounds with thousands of examples of her use of the safety of numbers to assure various species' survival. Just as those species which have more offspring will outnumber those with less, greater numbers of adults within a species also increase that groups chances for survival. Eight 1 1/2 lb bass have a greater chance for survival than two 6 lb. bass. As stated above, a successful big bass management program results in a smaller number of total bass and puts the resource at greater risk to catastrophic events such as hurricane andrew.
2. The public is often presented with various media hype which portrays big bass as more desirable spawners than smaller bass. However, explanation no. 1 above assures that a bass population skewed toward smaller, more numerous fish increases the total number of bass that will be available for the

spawn. Also, the number of spawning sites and the diversity of spawning habitat made possible by the existence of more spawners increases the chances for a successful spawn and in addition increases the chances for the fry to survive.

I have not spent a lot of time so far attempting to establish the point that the resource (bass) in the basin has recovered and is no longer in any danger. This is because that fact should be self-evident to the commission.

My understanding is that the primary concern of the commission is to first see that the resource is protected. Beyond that, a major responsibility is to judiciously allocate the resource to the various user groups. And although not the only criteria, it would certainly seem that in a democratic society, the highest priority should be to strive to satisfy the majority of the people. Every group who makes an appeal to a public entity appeals in the name of "the people" or "the public".

I respectfully ask the commission to have the LDWF conduct a scientific poll that will reveal how the people want the Basin managed. The Basin is too precious to be managed for a minority at the expense of the majority.

Respectfully Yours

pr. 2, 1990 - In the Sunday Advocate, Mike Cook announced a new state record 13 lb. 6 oz. bass had been caught by Tracy Smith.

sam kings quote about too many little bass

DEAR SIR,

THE SPECIAL REGULATIONS ON THE SIZE LIMIT OF BASS IN THE HURRICANE RECOVERY AREAS OF THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN AND SURROUNDING AREA WILL EXPIRE LATER THIS YEAR AND THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ARE ALREADY SCURRYING AROUND TRYING TO USE THEIR POLITICAL PULL TO EXTEND THE REGULATIONS. THE SPONSORS OF BASS TOURNAMENTS AND HEADS OF SOME OF THE BASS CLUBS ARE THE CULPRITS BECAUSE THEY STAND TO GAIN MONETARY REWARDS FROM CONTINUING THESE EMERGENCY REGULATIONS. THE BIGGER BASS THAT ARE CAUGHT IN THESE TOURNAMENTS, THE MORE PUBLICITY THEY RECEIVE FROM THE MEDIA, THUS GETTING AN ECONOMIC BOOST FROM SALES OF THEIR PRODUCTS. AND WE THOUGHT THIS WAS A SPORT FISH!

A VAST MAJORITY OF LOUISIANA BASS FISHERMEN WANT AS FEW RULES AND REGULATIONS AS POSSIBLE, BUT WE ARE NOT ORGANIZED, THUS THERE IS NO MEDIA COVERAGE OF OUR FEELINGS. WE CAN ONLY ASK YOU, AS A COMMISSION MEMBER, TO PLEASE DO WHAT IS BIOLOGICALLY SOUND AND NOT BE PERSUADED BY A TAINTED MINORITY OF SPECIAL INTEREST PEOPLE.

I HAVE A CAMP IN THE RECOVERY AREA AND CAN ATTEST TO THE FACT THAT THE OVER POPULATION OF BASS IN THE AFOREMENTIONED AREA CAN ONLY BE DETRIMENTAL TO BIOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT OF THE SPECIES. ONE OF THE FAVORITE FOODS OF ADULT BASS IS SPORT FISH FRY AND THE RECOVERY OF THE CRAPPIE IN THESE AREAS WILL BE SLOWED.

IN CLOSING, PLEASE RECOMMEND WHAT IS BEST FOR THE SPECIES  
NOT BEST FOR THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS.

THANKS,  
  
WARREN SHEETS  
P.O. BOX 476  
ADDIS, LA. 70710

CAMP

1163 E. STEPHENSVILLE RD  
STEPHENSVILLE, LA.

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

- WHEREAS,** sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and
- WHEREAS,** sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and
- WHEREAS,** Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and
- WHEREAS,** Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.
- NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 5-11, 1995 as

FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that June 10 and 11, 1995 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

DATE: May 4, 1995

\_\_\_\_\_  
Perry Gisclair  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glynn Carver  
Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. "Jeff" Schneider

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph B. Cormier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Vujnovich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tee John Mialjevich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerald Hanchey

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe L. Herring, Secretary

[EXCERPT FROM PRESENT BYLAWS]

**AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

These By-laws may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by a majority vote of the commissioners present at the meeting. However, no such alteration or amendment shall be considered unless (a) notice of the intention to alter or amend the By-laws shall have been given in writing at a previous meeting of the Commission, and (b) a draft of the proposed alteration or amendment shall have been sent to each member of the Commission at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which action on such alteration or amendment is to be taken.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS  
PROPOSALS 1 AND 2

ARTICLE IV

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Officers shall be elected annually at the regular meeting of the Commission in ~~December~~ January, at which the members shall elect, from among their own number, a chairman and a vice-chairman, to hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected. The Board shall not be bound by any particular order of succession in the nomination of members for election to office.
2. In case a vacancy shall occur among the elected officers, due to death, resignation, or other cause, an election shall be held, at a regular or special meeting, to fill the vacant office for the unexpired portion of the term.
3. Within the terms of their respective appointments, any member elected ~~on one of the above offices~~ as Vice-Chairman who shall have served in such office for one term, shall be eligible to succeed himself. Any member elected as Chairman who shall have served in such office for one term shall be ineligible to succeed himself in the year immediately following his service as Chairman.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS  
PROPOSAL 3  
OPTION A.

ARTICLE VIII

AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Commission an agenda covering the items of business to be considered and acted upon at each meeting of the Commission including those items enumerated by the chairman. The chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, shall give verbal approval of the final agenda to the Secretary no later than 72 hours prior to the meeting. Any item of business requested by any member of the Commission shall be placed on the agenda unless the Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman determines (a) that the item requested is a matter which is outside the constitutional or statutory jurisdiction of the commission; <sup>or</sup> (b) is inappropriate for consideration at the meeting requested; provided that the Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall state at the meeting the reasons for any such determination. If either the chairman or the vice-chairman are unavailable, verbal approval of the final agenda may be given by any two (2) commission members. The Commission may consider such other matters as may properly be brought before it. The order of business may be altered by the Commission at its discretion.

The Commission may, by majority vote, exclude any items or class of items from the agenda for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months; provided, however, that by two-thirds vote, the Commission may return such item or class of items to the agenda at any subsequent meeting.

At least 3 days prior to each meeting, the staff, under the direction of the Secretary, shall provide each Commission member with full explanations and back-up material and information on each item to be presented at the meetings.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS  
PROPOSAL 3  
OPTION B.

ARTICLE VIII

AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Commission an agenda covering the items of business to be considered and acted upon at each meeting of the Commission including those items enumerated by the chairman. The chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, shall give verbal approval of the final agenda to the Secretary no later than 72 hours prior to the meeting. The Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall have sole discretion to determine what items shall or shall not be placed on the Agenda including, but not limited to, those items of business requested by members of the Commission. If either the chairman or the vice-chairman are unavailable, verbal approval of the final agenda may be given by any two (2) commission members. The Commission may consider such other matters as may properly be brought before it. The order of business may be altered by the Commission at its discretion.

The Commission may, by majority vote, exclude any items or class of items from the agenda for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months; provided,

however, that by two-thirds vote, the Commission may return such item or class of items to the agenda at any subsequent meeting.

At least 3 days prior to each meeting, the staff, under the direction of the Secretary, shall provide each Commission member with full explanations and back-up material and information on each item to be presented at the meetings.

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 16, 1995

**MEMORANDUM:**

TO: Joe L. Herring, Secretary

FROM: Lee Caubarreaux, Assistant Secretary *LC*

SUBJECT: Aviation Report - February 1995  
Total hours listed are:

PILOT	TOTAL HOURS
G. Rackle	9.8
B. Stamey	10.1
M. Windham	8.3
D. Clause	19.0
TOTAL HOURS	47.2

PLANE	FLIGHT HOURS	ESTIMATED <sup>1</sup> COST(TOTAL)	ACTUAL <sup>2</sup> COST(TOTAL)	COMMISSION METHOD
N61092 Amphib	9.3	1,089.31	3,057.89	1,943.24
70365 Float-DC	19.0	1,752.37	895.28	2,491.66
N2576K Float-MW	8.8	1,131.42	2,165.38	
N9467Y 210	2.3	257.00	223.70	475.66
N223MS Partenavia	0.0	0.00	361.55	0.00
N57266 Aero Commander	7.8			
TOTALS	47.2	4,230.10	6,703.80	4,910.56

<sup>1</sup>Estimated Cost is based on an historical average per flight hour.

<sup>2</sup>Actual Cost substitutes actual maintenance for the month for the average maintenance costs used in the previous figure. This is the only figure used in the calculation of estimated costs that varies significantly from month to month.

LCC:csg

cc: Debbie Unbehagen, Fiscal

FEBRUARY, 1995

PLANE: N223MS (PARTENAVIA)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
		NO FLIGHTS		
PLANE: N9467Y (210)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/24/95	STAMEY	BR-COASTAL ZONE-BR: LOOP Pipeline survey	2.3	M. Fugler
		TOTAL	2.3	
PLANE: N70365 (FLOAT-DC)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/01/95	CLAUSE	NI-ROCKEFLLER: duck class BLACK BAY-NI: oyster	2.2	F. Travila
02/02/95	CLAUSE	NI-ROCKEFELLER-NI: duck class	.6	-----
02/06/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION BAY-NI: gill nets, snapper boats	1.2	C. Pitre
02/07/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION BAY-NI: gill nets, snapper boats	2.0	G. Adams
02/08/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION BAY-NI: gill nets, snapper boats	3.4	G. Adams D. Folse
02/09/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION BAY-NI: gill nets, snapper boats	3.0	G. Adams D. Folse
02/14/95	CLAUSE	NI-SWEP 6-NI: gill nets, snapper	2.3	-----
02/15/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION, IBERIA AREA-NI: snapper boats	.6	2 Federal Agents
02/16/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION, IBERIA AREA-NI: snapper boats, gill nets	.9	G. Adams
02/17/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION, IBERIA AREA-NI: snapper boats, gill nets	1.1	G. Adams
02/22/95	CLAUSE	NI-COASTAL: snapper boats, helicopter s&r	.7	-----
02/23/95	CLAUSE	NI-VERMILLION BAY-NI: snapper boats, crabs	1.0	-----
		TOTAL	19.0	

PLANE: N61092 (AMPHIB)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/10/95	RACKLE	NO-HOUMA-COASTAL-NO: DNR permits	1.8	D. Watson
02/13/95	RACKLE	NO-BATON ROUGE-NO: maintenance	1.5	-----
02/17/95	RACKLE	HOUMA-NO: pick up from radio shop and test fly	1.2	-----
02/21/95	RACKLE	NO-COASTAL: oyster grounds survey	3.8	C. Perret P. Bowman
02/21/95	RACKLE	NO-HOUMA-NO: pick up 2576K from radio shop	1.0	M. Windham
		TOTAL	9.3	

PLANE: N2576K (FLOAT-MW)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/02/95	WINDHAM	NO-ROCKEFELLER-NO: marsh management, Cameron Parish Gravity Drainage Board Meeting	2.2	-----
02/08/95	WINDHAM	NO-HOLLY BEACH: enforcement	1.3	R. Broussard
02/08/95	WINDHAM	RETURN TO NO	1.8	-----
02/17/95	RACKLE	NO-HOUMA: Sea Air, install Loran unit	.5	-----
02/21/95	WINDHAM	NO-SALVADOR & POINTE AU CHIEN WMA-NO: pick up airplane in Houma, also review Pointe au Chien and Salvador WMAs	1.3	-----
02/23/95	WINDHAM	NO-PASS A LOU TRE WMA-NO: review management projects	1.7	B. White
		TOTAL	8.8	

PLANE: N25766 (AERO COMMANDER)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/03/95	STAMEY	BR-CARBONDALE, IL-BR: pick up personnel from waterfowl conf.	5.9	S. Durham J. Leslie
02/21/95	STAMEY	BR-MONROE-FARMERVILLE-BR: transport personnel to meeting	1.9	J. Herring B. Fontenot B. Smith
		TOTAL	7.8	

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

PERIOD	NO. CASES ASSESSED	AMOUNT ASSESSED	CREDIT FOR SALE GOODS	NO. CASES PAID	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNTS TAKEN	Per Cent Dollars Paid	Per Cent Cases Paid
July, 1992	105	26,553	(10,515)	103	5,578			
Aug, 1992	137	26,153	(3,241)	95	5,292			
Sept, 1992	214	34,341	(3,245)	82	6,186			
Oct, 1992	346	238,388	(19,670)	119	8,310	292		
Nov, 1992	34	17,264		220	11,744	4,651		
Dec, 1992	122	76,371	(7,012)	97	5,042	1,275		
Jan, 1993	77	35,470	(979)	75	7,389	3,799		
Feb, 1993	40	10,787		81	13,141	6,941		
March, 1993	37	15,552	(1,876)	60	13,479	5,848		
April, 1993	24	8,418	(10,809)	31	5,000	2,379		
May, 1993	21	16,063	(1,599)	39	5,704	2,381		
June, 1993	40	23,637	(7,454)	27	8,356	4,077		
<b>Total FY 93</b>	<b>1,197</b>	<b>528,997</b>	<b>(66,400)</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>95,221</b>	<b>31,643</b>	<b>24.0%</b>	<b>85.9%</b>
July, 1993	25	21,039	(9,778)	29	4,855	2,545		
August, 1993	53	44,922	(1,137)	41	7,950	3,603		
Sept., 1993	42	137,635	(17,938)	35	6,783	3,048		
October, 1993	49	21,471	(11,282)	40	3,285	1,519		
Nov., 1993	57	31,207	(13,260)	32	3,053	2,845		
Dec., 1993	53	13,777	0	27	6,507	6,713		
Jan., 1994	38	18,918	0	32	4,423	2,831		
Feb., 1994	68	38,131	(8,238)	46	9,124	5,993		
March, 1994	38	22,739	(2,482)	51	10,854	6,796		
April, 1994	14	44,732	(1,404)	27	7,307	4,632		
May, 1994	10	4,504	(165)	7	5,447	3,808		
June, 1994	29	26,167	(2,986)	12	1,886	1,214		
<b>Total FY 94</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>425,242</b>	<b>(68,670)</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>71,474</b>	<b>45,547</b>	<b>27.5%</b>	<b>79.6%</b>
<b>FISCAL YEAR 1994-95</b>								
July, 1994	17	2,127	(335)	23	2,101	1,437		
August, 1994	41	96,403	(3,035)	20	1,010	605		
Sept., 1994	34	14,614	(14,002)	26	2,596	2,342		
Oct., 1994	94	17,426	(8,677)	38	2,922	3,179		
Nov., 1994	43	103,592	0	45	3,992	2,803		
Dec., 1994	68	31,400		35	4,315	2,329		
Jan., 1995	55	27,601		52	7,493	4,921		
Feb., 1995	70	61,119		41	6,472	3,973		
March, 1995	31	25,072		44	8,315	4,737		
April, 1995	13	15,353		16	3,565	1,538		
May, 1995								
June, 1995								
<b>Total FY 95</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>394,707</b>	<b>(26,049)</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>42,781</b>	<b>27,864</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>73.0%</b>

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT

	CURRENT MONTH		FISCAL YEAR TO DATE		INCEPTION TO DATE	
	03/01/1995 TO 03/31/1995	07/01/1994 TO 03/31/1995	03/01/1995	07/01/1994 TO 03/31/1995	03/31/1995	03/31/1995
	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	31	\$25,071.67	450	\$375,974.54	2,464	\$1,656,600.66
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00	35	\$25,284.65	331	\$269,865.45
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00	17	\$12,469.54	148	\$71,979.21
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	31	\$25,071.67	450	\$363,159.43	2,464	\$1,458,714.42
PAYMENTS	44	\$8,315.06	304	\$39,215.61	1,559	\$214,419.00
OVERPAYMENTS	4	\$33.53	20	\$748.27	50	\$951.27
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	33	\$4,737.12	277	\$26,326.48	934	\$105,919.93
REFUNDS	2	\$31.66	15	\$2,956.06	24	\$6,534.75
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
REMUNERATION REFUNDS	0	\$0.00	3	\$26,774.00	8	\$38,771.35
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00	1	\$35.95	2	\$36.75
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00	1	\$20.00	2	\$35.00
DEBITS	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.86	2	\$0.86
REASSESSMENTS	1	\$0.01	2	\$0.86	2	\$0.86
CREDITS	1	\$0.00	2	\$491.21	14	\$3,492.55
DEBITS	1	\$524.54	5	\$1,988.68	40	\$12,051.48
CREDITS	1	\$0.01	3	\$0.87	181	\$258,969.19
WRITE-OFFS	1	\$524.54	2	\$812.54	6	\$1,399.24
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00	7	\$17,275.20	7	\$17,275.20
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$97.80
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$97.80
** TOTAL OUTSTANDING			658	\$898,403.39		

FOOTNOTE:

PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	AMOUNT PAID TO COLLECTOR	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	32	\$10,560.13
			\$0.00		\$0.00		\$2,640.03

CAN NOT BE INVOICED	AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES	2	\$139.50
1 - 30 DAYS		24	\$23,250.75
31 - 60 DAYS		33	\$47,643.46
61 - 90 DAYS		16	\$23,255.29
91 - 120 DAYS		73	\$31,656.68
121 - 150 DAYS		33	\$101,772.48
151 - 180 DAYS		82	\$37,361.03
181 - 365 DAYS		306	\$540,673.44
CASES SENT FOR COLLECTION		0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING		0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR (OTHER)		89	\$93,203.86

\*\* TOTAL AGING 658 \$898,956.49

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT

	CURRENT MONTH 03/01/1995 TO 03/31/1995		FISCAL YEAR TO DATE 07/01/1994 TO 03/31/1995		INCEPTION TO DATE 03/31/1995	
	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	406	\$20,900.00	4,523	\$231,955.00	37,760	\$1,915,302.07
HEARING COSTS	106	\$2,650.00	1,668	\$41,702.00	9,203	\$230,082.00
DEBITS	0	\$50.00-	0	\$350.00-	0	\$1,025.00-
CREDITS						
TOTAL DUE		\$23,500.00		\$273,307.00		\$2,144,359.07

PAID IN FULL	290	\$14,437.50-	2,931	\$149,337.25-	19,647	\$1,003,059.75-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	16	\$613.36-	164	\$6,866.34-	572	\$24,555.60-
OVERPAYMENTS	4	\$177.50	32	\$1,477.25	292	\$13,376.93
REFUNDS	2	\$150.00	9	\$475.00	48	\$2,983.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00	4	\$200.00	23	\$1,150.00
MISC CHANGES	0	\$0.00	4	\$80.00	23	\$370.00
DEBITS	2	\$1.64-	24	\$18.41-	103	\$103.81-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION	1	\$50.00	9	\$550.00	55	\$3,100.00
DEBITS	0	\$0.00	1	\$0.00	6	\$250.00-
CREDITS	6	\$350.00-	264	\$11,270.25-	1,758	\$70,456.88-
VOIDS	6	\$350.00-	264	\$11,270.25-	1,758	\$70,456.88-
NOT GUILTY	5	\$250.00-	79	\$3,500.00-	347	\$17,225.00-
TOTAL OUTSTANDING						\$1,049,687.96

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES  
FROM CITATION DATE

0 - 30 DAYS	253	\$13,150.00
31 - 60 DAYS	185	\$9,515.00
61 - 90 DAYS	101	\$5,675.00
91 - 120 DAYS	130	\$6,850.00
121 - 150 DAYS	130	\$6,975.00
151 - 180 DAYS	157	\$8,750.00
181 - 365 DAYS	2,164	\$139,892.00
OVER 1 YEAR UNCOLLECTABLE	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR (OTHER)	13,160	\$858,905.96

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES  
FROM HEARING DATE

PRE HEARING	396	\$20,450.00
0 - 90 DAYS	2,219	\$113,815.00
91 - 180 DAYS	1,373	\$86,911.00
181 - 270 DAYS	1,168	\$79,946.50
271 - 365 DAYS	95	\$4,850.00
OVER 1 YEAR UNCOLLECTABLE	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING	0	\$0.00



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT

	CURRENT MONTH		FISCAL YEAR TO DATE		INCEPTION TO DATE	
	04/01/1995 TO 04/30/1995	07/01/1994 TO 04/30/1995	04/30/1995			
	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	577	\$30,900.00	5,100	\$262,855.00	38,337	\$1,946,202.07
HEARING COSTS	163	\$4,075.00	1,831	\$45,777.00	9,366	\$234,157.00
DEBITS	2	\$50.00-	2	\$400.00-	2	\$1,075.00-
CREDITS						
TOTAL DUE		\$34,925.00		\$308,232.00		\$2,179,284.07

PAID IN FULL	228	\$11,325.00-	3,169	\$161,162.25-	19,885	\$1,014,884.75-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	11	\$523.30-	175	\$7,389.64-	583	\$25,078.90-
OVERPAYMENTS	4	\$125.00	37	\$1,602.25	297	\$13,501.93
REFUNDS	1	\$25.00	10	\$500.00	49	\$3,008.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00	4	\$200.00	23	\$1,150.00
MISC CHANGES						
DEBITS	0	\$0.00	4	\$80.00	23	\$370.00
CREDITS	2	\$1.70-	26	\$20.11-	105	\$105.51-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION						
DEBITS	0	\$0.00	9	\$550.00	55	\$3,100.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00	1	\$0.00	6	\$250.00-
VOIDS	12	\$600.00-	277	\$11,870.25-	1,771	\$71,056.88-
NOT GUILTY	17	\$850.00-	96	\$4,350.00-	364	\$18,075.00-
TOTAL OUTSTANDING						\$1,070,962.96

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES  
FROM CITATION DATE

0 - 30 DAYS	333	\$17,000.00
31 - 60 DAYS	310	\$17,400.00
61 - 90 DAYS	180	\$9,465.00
91 - 120 DAYS	88	\$5,500.00
121 - 150 DAYS	118	\$7,275.00
151 - 180 DAYS	110	\$6,600.00
181 - 365 DAYS	1,949	\$124,382.00
OVER 1 YEAR UNCOLLECTABLE	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR (OTHER)	13,515	\$883,365.96

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES  
FROM HEARING DATE

PRE HEARING	787	\$41,750.00
0 - 90 DAYS	2,156	\$114,165.00
91 - 180 DAYS	1,369	\$86,586.00
181 - 270 DAYS	0	\$0.00
271 - 365 DAYS	1,261	\$84,696.50
OVER 1 YEAR UNCOLLECTABLE	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING	0	\$0.00

# Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary



CONTACT  
(504) 765-2923

95-87A

5/1/95

### AGENDA FOR MAY WILDLIFE & FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING REVISED

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has revised the agenda for its May meeting, to be held Thursday, May 4, 1995, in the **Peltier Auditorium, Nichols State University, Thibodaux**. The meeting will convene at 10 a.m.

The meeting is open to the public. The revised agenda follows.

1. Roll call.
2. Approval of minutes of March 2, 1995, meeting.
3. Louisiana Bass Hatchery presentation of Dow Chemical Co. sign in recognition of cooperation between state, industries, and volunteers.
4. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by the Louisiana Taxidermist Association.
5. Presentation of data and Declaration of Emergency to set the 1995 spring inshore shrimp season.
6. Consideration and possible Declaration of Emergency to ban night shrimping in Vermilion Bay.
7. Public comments on proposed license moratorium on saltwater gill nets, trammel nets, and seines.
8. Public comments on 1995-96 hunting season regulations for resident game.

-over-

agenda/add-one

9. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent: crawfish rules and regulations on Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.
10. Department land acquisition from The Nature Conservancy expanding Tunica Hills Wildlife Management Area.
11. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent: close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to black bass fishing.
12. Ratification of Rule: black bass minimum size regulations on Eagle Lake.
13. Notice of Intent: black bass minimum size regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin/Lake Verret area.
14. Resolution: National Fishing Week in Louisiana.
15. Recognition for Louisiana's outstanding work in wetlands conservation.
16. Amendment of by-laws.
17. Discussion of rule-making procedures (information only).
18. Set August and September 1995 meeting date.
19. Public comments.
20. Adjourn.

# Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

## NEWS RELEASE

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary



CONTACT  
(504) 763-2923

95-87A

5/1/95

### AGENDA FOR MAY WILDLIFE & FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING REVISED

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18. Set August and September 1995 meeting date.
19. Public comments.
20. Adjourn.

FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO: Dr. Earl Melancon

FAX# \_\_\_\_\_

FROM Susan

RE: Commission Agenda has been revised. Please post this copy at Beltier Auditorium.

*Thanks*



DATE: 5/1/95

TIME SENT 4:07 p.m.

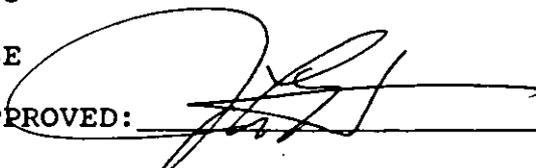
FOR INFORMATION CALL (504) 765-2806

OUR FAX # (504) 765-2607

PAGES TO FOLLOW 1

May 1, 1995

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AMENDED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 4, 1995, in the Peltier Auditorium on the Nichols State University Campus, Thibodaux, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of March 2, 1995
3. Louisiana Bass Hatchery Presentation of Dow Chemical Co. Sign Cooperation Between State, Industries and Volunteers
4. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association
5. Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season
6. Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay
7. Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines
8. Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations
9. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent Establishing Crawfish Rules and Regulations, Sherburne WMA
10. The Nature Conservancy Acquisition
11. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent to Close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to Black Bass Fishing
12. Rule Ratification - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations on Eagle Lake
13. Notice of Intent - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area
14. National Fishing Week Resolution
15. Recognition for Louisiana's Outstanding Work in Wetlands Conservation

16. Amendment of By-Laws
17. Discussion of Rulemaking Procedures (Information Only)
18. Set August & September 1995 Meeting Date
19. Public Comments
20. Adjourn

FAX TRANSMITTAL

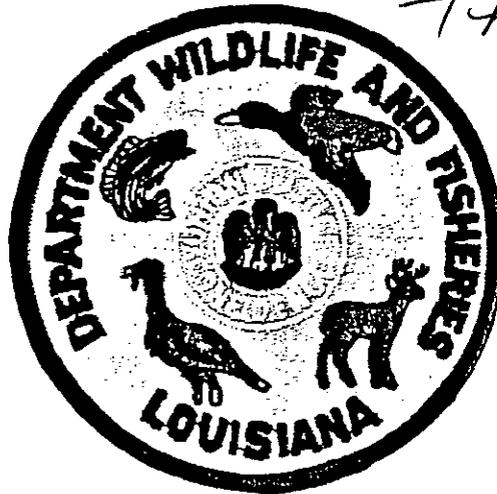
TO: Dr Earl Melancon

FAX# \_\_\_\_\_

FROM Susan

RE: Commission Agenda - Please  
post at all entrances to  
Peltier Auditorium.

*Thanks*



DATE: 5/1/95

TIME SENT \_\_\_\_\_

FOR INFORMATION CALL (504) 765-2806

OUR FAX # (504) 765-2607

PAGES TO FOLLOW 1

# Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

## NEWS RELEASE

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary



CONTACT  
(504) 765-2923

95-87

4/28/95

### MAY WILDLIFE & FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING ANNOUNCED

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will conduct its next regular meeting on Thursday, May 4, 1995, in the **Peltier Auditorium, Nichols State University, Thibodaux**. The meeting will convene at 10 a.m.

The meeting is open to the public. The agenda follows.

1. Roll call.
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4. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by the Louisiana Taxidermist Association.
5. Public comments on 1995-96 hunting season regulations for resident game.
6. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent: crawfish rules and regulations on Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.
7. Department acquisition from The Nature Conservancy expanding Tunica Hills Wildlife Management Area.
8. Report on the 1995 turkey hunting season.
9. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent: close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to black bass fishing.
10. Ratification: black bass minimum size regulations on Eagle Lake.
11. Notice of Intent: black bass minimum size regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin/Lake Verret area.
12. Presentation of data and Declaration of Emergency to set the 1995 spring inshore shrimp season.
13. Consideration and possible Declaration of Emergency to ban night shrimping in Vermilion Bay.
14. Public comments on proposed license moratorium on saltwater gill nets, trammel nets, and seines.
15. Resolution: National Fishing Week in Louisiana.
16. Recognition for Louisiana's outstanding work in wetlands conservation.
17. Resolution authorizing chairman and vice-chairman to sign deeds.
18. Amendment of by-laws.
19. Discussion of rule-making procedures (information only).
20. Set August and September 1995 meeting date.
21. Public comments.
22. Adjourn.

April 27, 1995

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 4, 1995, in the Peltier Auditorium on the Nichols State University Campus, Thibodaux, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of March 2, 1995
3. Louisiana Bass Hatchery Presentation of Dow Chemical Co. Sign Cooperation Between State, Industries and Volunteers
4. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association
5. Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations
6. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent Establishing Crawfish Rules and Regulations, Sherburne WMA
7. The Nature Conservancy Acquisition
8. Report on 1995 Turkey Hunting Season
9. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent to Close John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish) to Black Bass Fishing
10. Rule Ratification - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations on Eagle Lake
11. Notice of Intent - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area
12. Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season
13. Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay
14. Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines
15. National Fishing Week Resolution

16. Recognition for Louisiana's Outstanding Work in Wetlands Conservation
17. Resolution Authorizing Chairman and Vice-Chairman to Sign Deeds
18. Amendment of By-Laws
19. Discussion of Rulemaking Procedures (Information Only)
20. Set August & September 1995 Meeting Date
21. Public Comments
22. Adjourn

April 25, 1995

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 4, 1995, in the Peltier Auditorium on the Nichols State University Campus, Thibodaux, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association
3. Aircraft Report
4. Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations
5. The Nature Conservancy Acquisition
6. Report on 1995 Turkey Hunting Season
7. Notice of Intent - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area
8. Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season
9. Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay
10. Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines
11. Civil Restitution/Class 1 Update
12. Enforcement Report/April
13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
14. Set September 1995 Meeting Date
15. Public Comments
16. Adjourn

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 25, 1995

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission  
FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary   
RE: May Board Meeting Agenda

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 4, 1995, in Peltier Auditorium on the Nichols State University Campus, Thibodaux, LA.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Presentation of Secretary's Cup by Louisiana Taxidermist Association

## LEE CAUBARREAU

2. Aircraft Report
3. Public Comments on 1995-96 Resident Game Hunting Regulations
4. The Nature Conservancy Acquisition
5. Report on 1995 Turkey Hunting Season

## CORKY PERRET

6. Notice of Intent - Black Bass Minimum Size Regulations in the Atchafalaya Basin-Lake Verret Area
7. Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season
8. Consideration and Possible Declaration of Emergency to Ban Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay

Page 2  
Commission Meeting  
April 25, 1995

9. Public Comments on License Moratorium: Saltwater Gill Nets, Trammel Nets and Seines

WYNNETTE KEES

10. Civil Restitution/Class 1 Update

WINTON VIDRINE

11. Enforcement Report/April

JOE HERRING

12. Secretary's Report to the Commission
13. Set September 1995 Meeting Date
14. Public Comments

JLH:sch

C: Clyde Kimball  
Fred Prejean  
Lee Caubarreaux  
Corky Perret  
Don Puckett  
John Medica  
Division Chiefs

04/18/95 10:50

→→ JEFF SCHNEIDER 001/003

## FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO: Jeff Schneider *To: Susan H.*

FAX# \_\_\_\_\_

FROM Susan Hawkins *From: JFS*RE: May Commission Agenda

The attached agenda is for the May 4, 1995 Commission Meeting to be held at Nichols State University as long as the April Meeting is held. Please let me know of any changes that may need to be made. Thank you.

*Looks okay! Check with the other commission and if it looks doubtful that the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> will not occur, then we will have to add any necessary retain items to this agenda. I assume we will have 4 in attendance, if not we will not meet.*

*Thank - Jeff*

DATE: April 19, 1995

TIME SENT \_\_\_\_\_

FOR INFORMATION CALL (504) 765- 2806 .

OUR FAX # (504) 765-2607

PAGES TO FOLLOW 2

**FAX TRANSMITTAL**

TO: Jeff Schneider

\_\_\_\_\_

FAX# \_\_\_\_\_

FROM Susan Hawkins

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The following will be on the agenda:

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Page 2  
Commission Meeting

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JLH:sch

C: Clyde Kimball  
Fred Prejean  
Lee Caubarreaux  
Corky Perret  
Don Puckett  
John Medica  
Division Chiefs

Lucien:

Please delete from  
the Thursday, April 27  
Commission Meeting the  
14" min. size on black  
bars in the Basin and  
re-schedule it for  
the regular Commission  
Meeting to be held  
in Tibodocang during  
the May 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting.  
Thanks.

Bernie

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 12, 1995

Mr. Bill Authement  
1811 West Main  
Houma, LA 70360

Dear Mr. Authement:

Congratulations on you winning the Secretary's Cup for the outstanding job you did on the bullfrogs. We are certainly looking forward to receiving this mount to display in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries display area.

As discussed, you can present this mount to the Department at the Thursday, May 4, 1995, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting, Nichols State University, Peltier Auditorium, Thibodaux, La. The meeting will begin at 10:00 AM and we will put you first on the agenda so you can leave if necessary.

Looking forward to seeing and visiting with you on May 4, 1995, I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe L. Herring".

Joe L. Herring

JLH:csg  
cc: Robert Love  
L Susan Hawkins

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 6, 1995

## MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *JLH*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - May 4, 1995

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Hawkins by Thursday, April 15th any agenda items your office may have for the Thursday, May 4th Commission Meeting to be held in Thibodaux, Louisiana, in the Peltier Auditorium at Nicholls State University (see attached map). This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on May 4th. 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!

JLH/sch

cc: Commissioners  
Don Puckett  
Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine  
Hugh Bateman ✓  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

*Season! This is it!*

- 1) Public Hearing - 95-96 Resident Game Hunting SEASONS - H. Bateman
- 2) TNC expiration - R. Love
- 3) Report ON <sup>195</sup> Turkey Hunting Season - D. Timmer

MAY 1995 COMMISSION MEETING  
MARINE FISHERIES

Presentation of Data and Declaration of Emergency to Set 1995  
Spring Inshore Shrimp Season - Corky Perret

Consideration of Ban on Night Shrimping in Vermilion Bay - Corky  
Perret

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

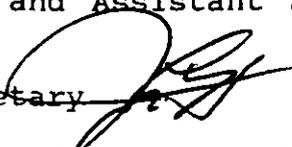
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
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(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 6, 1995

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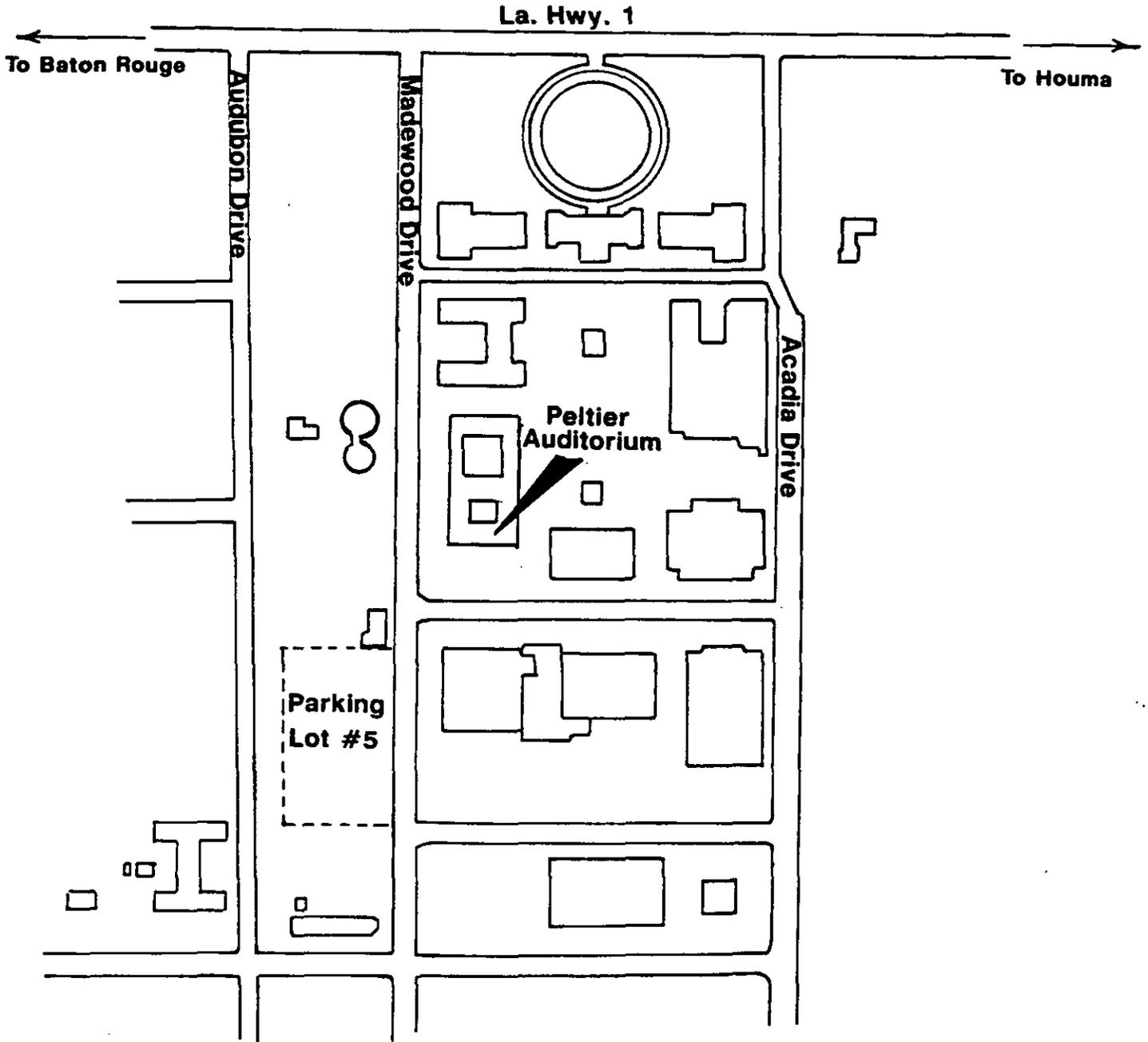
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Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine  
Hugh Bateman  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees ✓  
Karl Turner

*Fred Pigeon  
Wild Restitution*

# NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY



**Parking reserved in lot #5.**

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 6, 1995

## MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary 

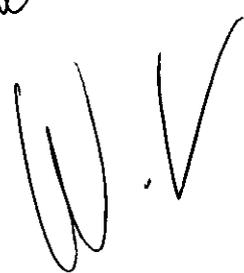
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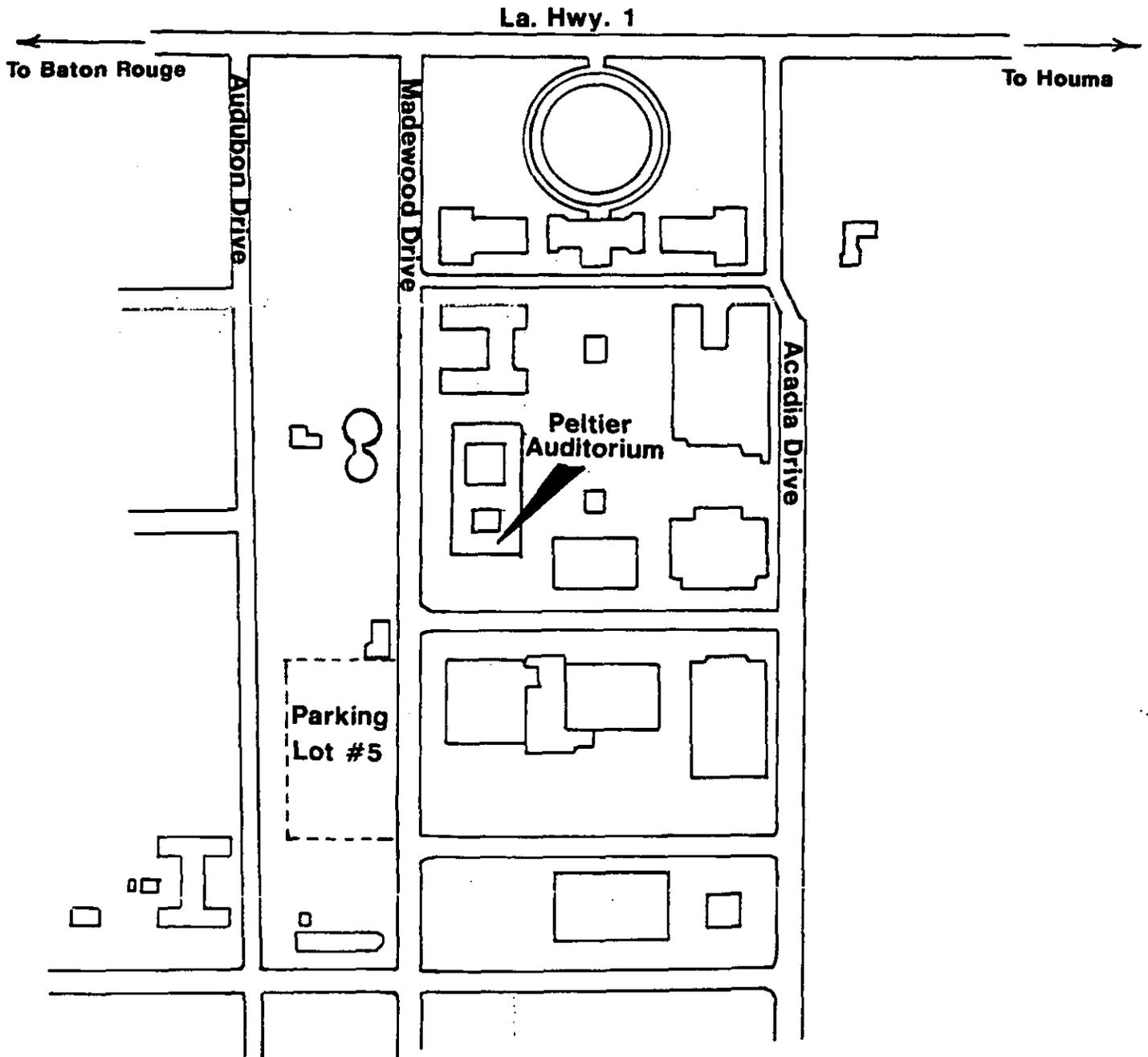
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Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine ✓  
Hugh Bateman  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

*Enforcement Report!*  


# NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY



**Parking reserved in lot #5.**

# State of Louisiana



REC'D

APR 07 95

INFORMATION &  
EDUCATION DIV  
B.F.O.

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 6, 1995

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - May 4, 1995

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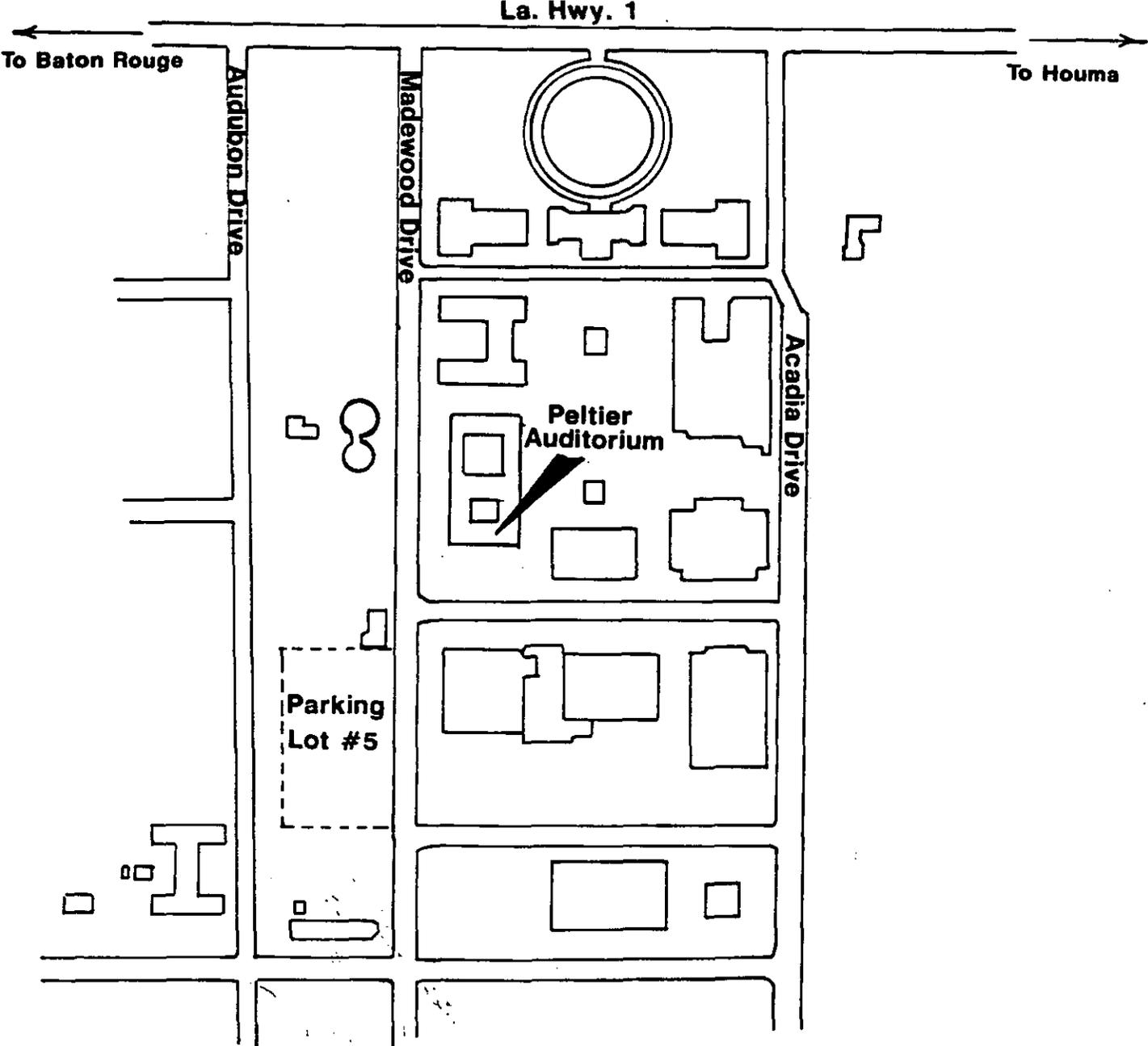
JLH/sch

- cc: Commissioners
- Don Puckett
- Bob Dennie ✓
- Winton Vidrine
- Hugh Bateman
- Johnnie Tarver
- Bennie Fontenot
- John Roussel
- Wynnette Kees
- Karl Turner

*Susan Resolution*  
*national fishing*  
*week will be handled*  
*by al [Signature]*

*Nothing as per conversation w/ al Carver 4/10/95 - sch*

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY



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# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

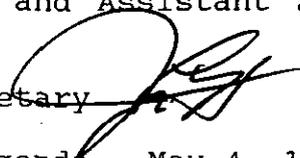
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
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(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 6, 1995

## MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary 

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - May 4, 1995

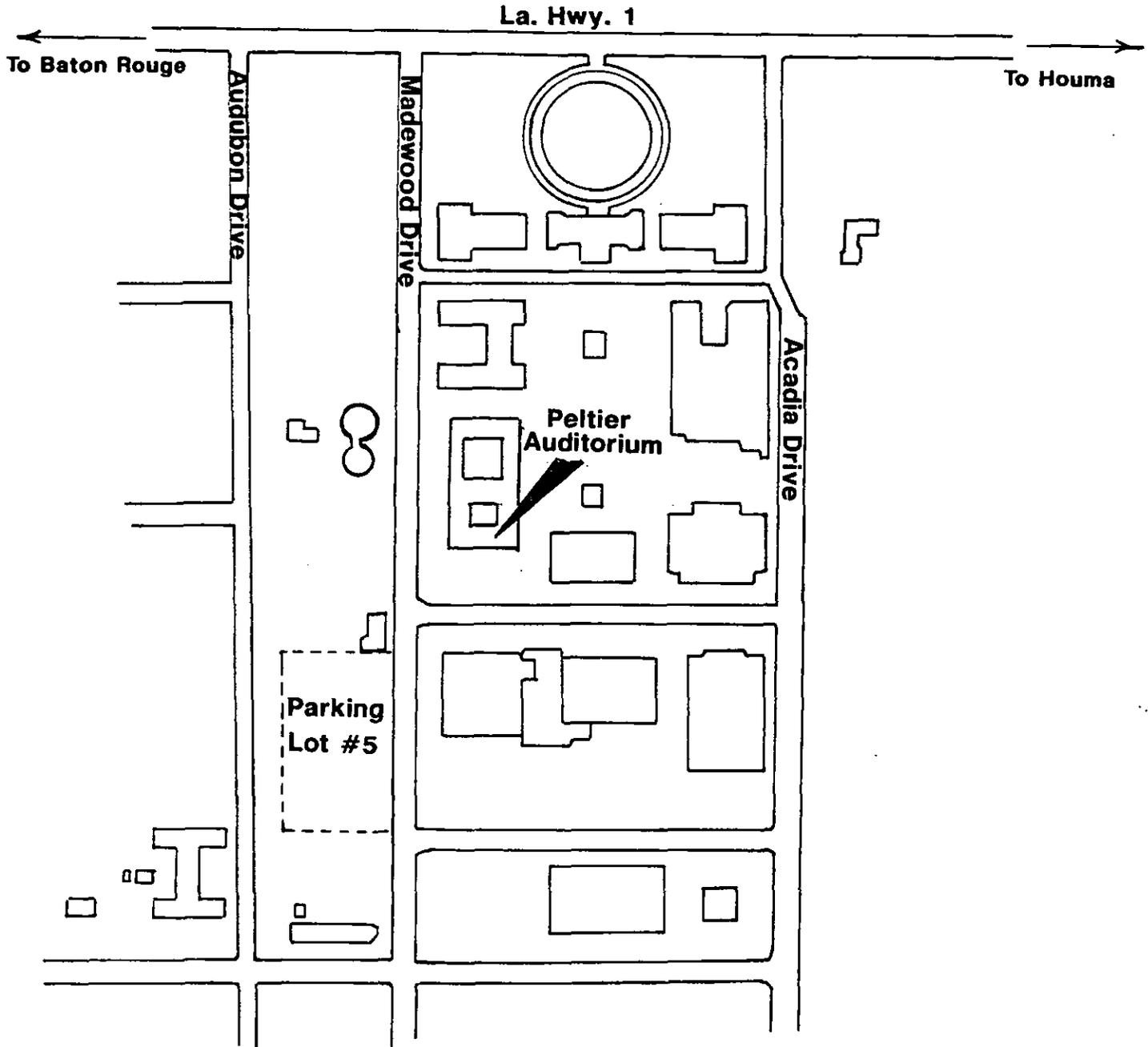
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# NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

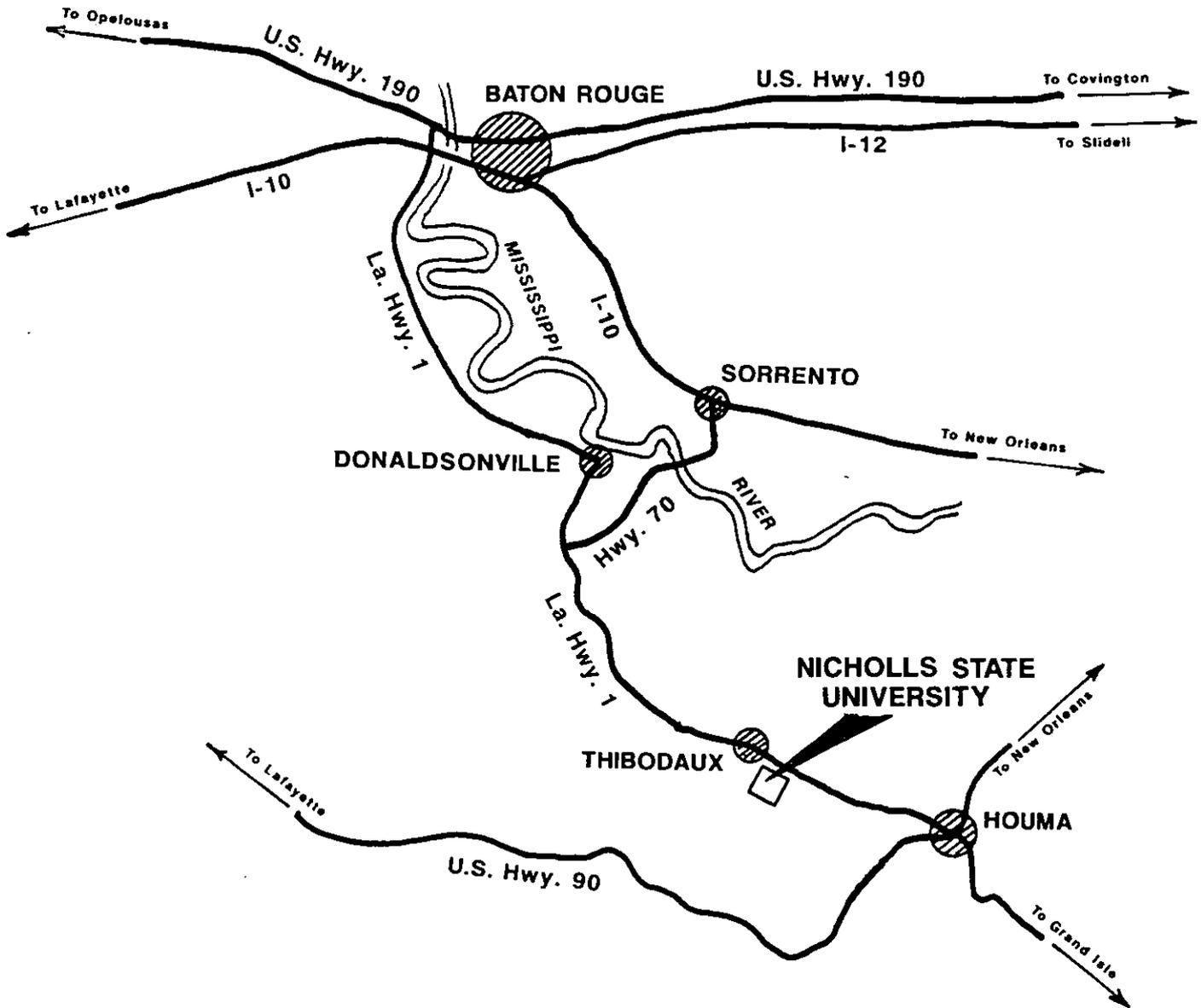


**Parking reserved in lot #5.**

# Annual Spring Shrimp Meeting

May 4, 1995

10:00 A.M.

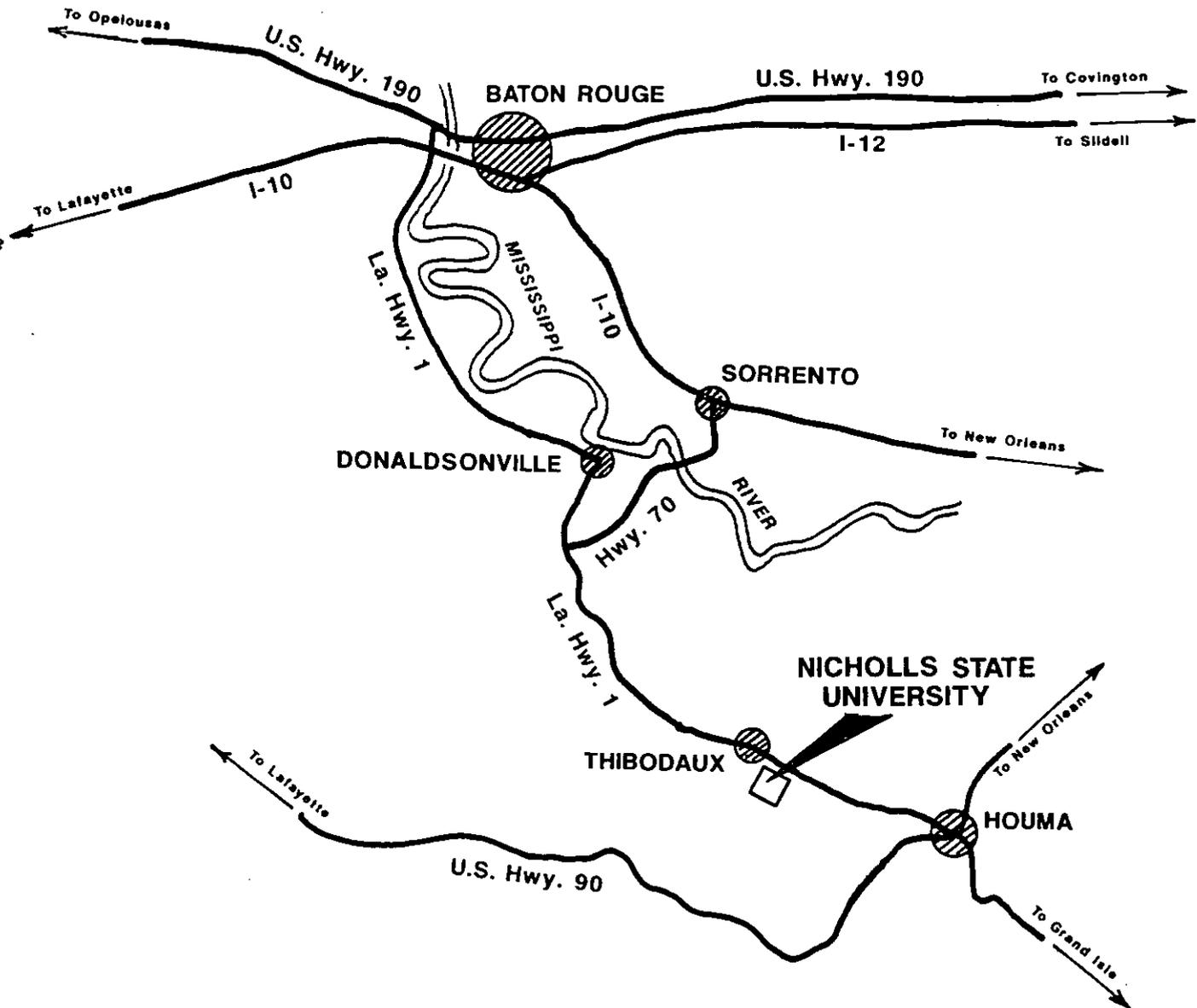


Hotels: Holiday Inn - Thibodaux - 504-446-0561  
Howard Johnson - Thibodaux - 504-447-9071

# Annual Spring Shrimp Meeting

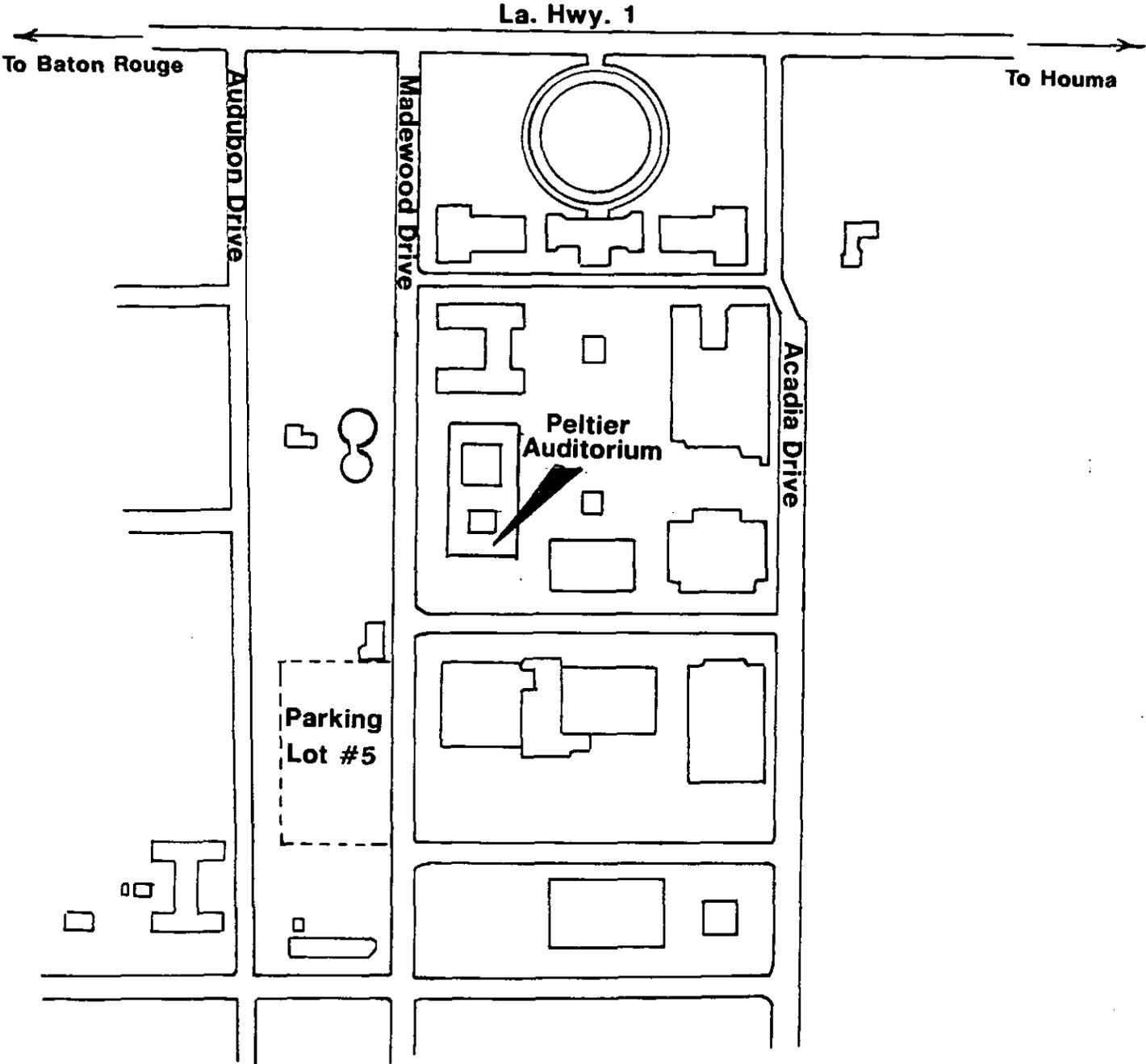
May 4, 1995

10:00 A.M.

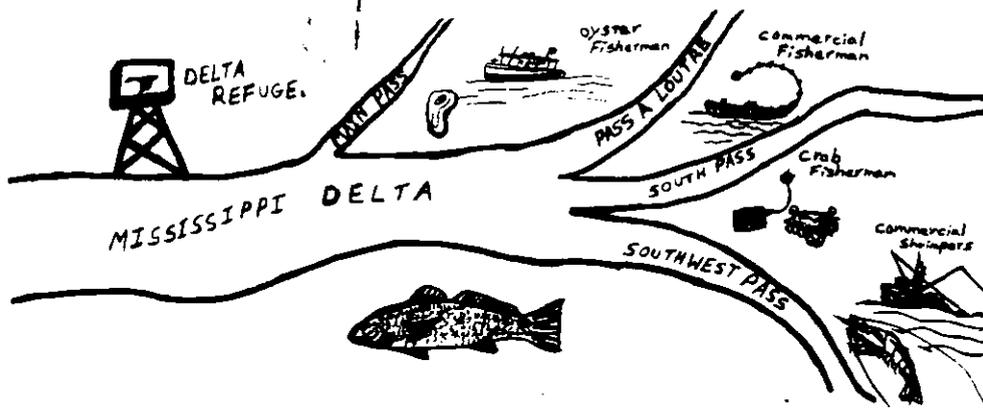


Hotels: Holiday Inn - Thibodaux - 504-446-0561  
Howard Johnson - Thibodaux - 504-447-9071

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY



Parking reserved in lot #5.



President  
LAWRENCE "BROTHER" STIPELCOVICH

P.O. Drawer 190  
Venice, LA 70091-0190

Lower Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

## **DELTA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**

MAY 1, 1995

Mr. Pery Gisclair  
Commissioner  
Wildlife & Fisheries  
P. O. Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA.

RE: RED FISH

Dear Mr. Gisclair:

The Delta Commercial Fisheries Association would like to go on record regarding the unjust decision commercial fishermen received on the red fish allocation in the meeting of 2/9/95 of the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries.

According to R.S. 56:638.3 (5) "If changes are to be required these increases and decreases are to be distributed among ALL fishermen in a fair and equitable manner that considers among other factors in historical usage ensuring that no historical user groups will be arbitrarily excluded".

The Saltwater Fishery Standards 638:5 states "If it becomes necessary to allocate or assign fishing privileges among various fishermen, such allocations to the extent practicable shall be: Fair and equitable to all such fishermen. Reasonably calculated to promote conservation. Carried out in such a manner to no particular individual, corporation or other legal entity acquired an excessive share of such privileges. In the best interest of the citizens of Louisiana".

...2

We agreed that conservation measures were necessary and needed to be enforced for the period of time needed for escapeage to reach 30%. According to all biological data the red fish population is back and on a definite increase. The Times Picayune could not have stated more eloquently the status of the red fish in the State of Louisiana. We would appreciate you reading this, if you have not done so already (a copy is enclosed for your review). The judgement not to re-open red fish to the commercial sector is clearly evident that the commercial fishermen who are fighting for their livelihood, were not treated fairly. The sport fishing sector received all the rights. It is our understanding that the decision was based on data of the off-shore stock of the bull red and the National Marine Fisheries and Gulf of Mexico Management Council has not surveyed the offshore stock since 1993 due to lack of funds but hope to survey this fall.

The commercial fishermen are of the understanding that the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries are to use data collected in state waters NOT the Gulf of Mexico. We feel this board is neglectful in their duties in not following the guidelines dictating that the best scientific data available should be sufficient to satisfy the status of the stock. A 30% escapment rate was required to satisfy a re-opening of the red fish fishery. This state has more than doubled the 30% escapement, WE HAVE REACHED A 70% ESCAPEMENT RATE.

Please note that 100% of red fish and 85% of trout landed in the state are landed by sport fishing. This notice behind the sport fishing industry's so called "concern" is not conservation but GREED! It is plain to see that their goal is to allocate all marine fisheries resources to one user group and to exclude consumers, who do not fish from affordable resources.

THE END RESULT OF THIS INEQUAL TREATMENT WOULD ONLY PRODUCE A MAN INDUCED DESTRUCTION OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY.

The commercial fishermen of Louisiana have chosed to join together in a state wide battle to fight for their rights. Our goal is to produce a plan whereby the commercial fishermen can continue to work without placing pressure on the resource base and without infringing on the the rights of other user groups. Please refer to Historical and Statutory Notes (please refer to the law book of if you need help with

this State). We feel that since the board has rejected all plans set forth by the commercial fishermen the burden lies on the shoulders of the commissioners' to compromise with all user groups and develop a plan satisfactory to ALL user groups.

At the seminar on finfish held on March 25, 1995, we were informed of another set-back for the commercial fishermen. Due to pressure set forth by the sport fishermen the National Marine Fisheries and the Gulf of Mexico Management Council have delayed the bull red fish stock assessment and will use the money appropriated for this assessment to make an assessment of the red snapper stock. We agree that the red fish is just as important as the red snapper to both user groups, we cannot just sit back and let the pressure of one user group determine what should be done. The red snapper has a good management plan, it is the sport fishermen that are in disagreement.

Therefore, we urge this board to write to the Gulf of Mexico Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries on behalf of the commercial fishermen of this state and to do what was planned, also WHAT IS RIGHT! We have sat back for too many years now to let this greed and one user group have all the rights. Where does committment lay? Apparently only on the side of GREED AND MONEY. We are asking all commercial fishermen to write to everyone involved and get what has been promised to us as well as what is rightfully ours.

Let's face the fact that DATA in particular BIOLOGICAL DATA, must manage over POLITICS.

In the meantime, we propose that the board continue to press the issues of a Mortorium on licenses and a Limited Entry Program.

Sincerely,  


Lawrence "Brother" Stipelcovich  
President

Encl. 1

:MR

# Commercial anglers want shot now that numbers are strong

Phil Robichaux is a sports-fishing guide, but his words could have come from almost any coastal angler.

"When I hear them talk about reopening redfish to commercial fishing, my blood starts to boil," Robichaux said.

Well, get out the ice packs and smelling salts. Thursday, the state Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will make its annual review of gamefish status for redfish. The usual crowd will be there, and there probably will be the usual name-calling — commercials claiming sports are millionaire fish hogs who want to put working folks on the bread line; sports claiming commercials are mindless slaughterers of a holy resource.

But the relevant themes to follow in Thursday's slugfest will include:

► For the second year in a row state researchers say the species is abundant enough to increase the harvest.

► Federal scientists continue to argue that increasing the harvest would be risky.

► The Commission listening this year has a different face. The coup d'etat engineered by the governor's office last month handed chairmanship of the panel to commercial fisherman for the first time in eight years — and the solid four-vote majority recreational forces used to keep commercials out of the fishery may be gone.

Some anglers are angry the issue even is being discussed, but the commission has no choice. The law that gave the species gamefish status in 1990 also included a provision that requires the following annual ritual:

► By Feb. 1 each year, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries must present the commission with a report on the status of the resource. The report must state if there are enough redfish to increase the harvest level and, if so, the biologists must present sample scenarios for dividing the fish between the recreational and commercial sectors.

Bob Marshall



► The Commission must then send a report to the Legislature on March 1 explaining if gamefish status should be continued. Only the Legislature can remove gamefish status, but the Commission's action obviously will be influential, especially in committee meetings.

Redfish became an issue in the mid-1980s when researchers revealed the species was being fished to the point of collapse. Reds live in the marsh until they become sexually mature, about five years. They then migrate offshore to join the spawning stock, where they live to about 25 to 30 years. Before 1986 there was no limit on the commercial take, and recreational had a 50-fish daily limit with no minimum size.

Research showed offshore purse seiners were putting big dents in the open-Gulf spawning stock, while inshore fishermen — both sport and commercial — were fairly wiping out the young fish in the marsh.

Scientists said if the species were to remain abundant enough to support fishing, at least 20 percent of each spawning class had to live long enough to join the spawning stock. In 1986, that "escapement rate" was below 8 percent.

Faced with an emergency, agencies instituted a two-tiered plan to bring the species back to health. The federal government closed all fishing in offshore waters to protect the spawners, while the states moved to limit the inshore catch by imposing a conservation goal of 30 percent escapement. This was achieved by a temporary ban on commercial fishing and limiting sports to five fish a day, with a 16-inch minimum size and one fish longer than 27 inches.

“  
These are not recommendations by the Department. We are required by law to present scenarios, but we're not making any proposals. The only recommendation we do make is that, should fishing be reopened, that the decision-makers not choose the 30 percent escapement scenario. We feel that would be cutting (the conservation effort) too thin.”

”  
**HARRY BLANCHET,**  
Department of Wildlife  
and Fisheries

In 1990, the gamefish law extended the commercial closure.

What the commission will hear Thursday from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is, indeed, good news for everyone: The plan is working, at least inshore.

Research shows that for escapement has averaged about 70 percent during the last five years. This has occurred during a time when recruitment — the success of the spawning classes — has been exceptionally high. The result: We've got plenty of young fish in the marsh, recreational fishing has been excellent, and the conservation standard of 30 percent escapement has been doubled.

As required by law, the DWF listed allocation scenarios for increased harvest rates — should the commission or Legislature decide to reopen commercial fishing. The scenarios show what the split would be as fishing pressure reduced the escapement rate to 60, 50, 40 or 30 percent.

## A REDFISH OPTION PLAY

How would a commercial fishery on redfish affect recreational anglers?

Recreational Bag (Fish)	ESCAPEMENT RATES			
	30%	40%	50%	60%
5	3,073,000	2,301,000	1,550,000	814,000
6	2,706,000	1,933,000	1,181,000	444,000
7	2,494,000	1,719,000	987,000	229,000
8	2,346,000	1,569,000	812,000	79,000
9	2,218,000	1,443,000	689,000	0
10	2,118,000	1,341,000	586,000	0
15	1,763,000	986,000	231,000	0
20	1,531,000	753,000	0	0
25	1,358,000	578,000	0	0
30	1,213,000	433,000	0	0
35	1,092,000	312,000	0	0
40	987,000	206,000	0	0
45	894,000	0	0	0
50	810,000	0	0	0

SOURCE: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

State law requires the DWF annually to provide the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission with possible sports/commercial allocation scenarios if research shows there are enough fish to increase the harvest. The chart includes four such scenarios, each one based on a different "escapement rate" - the percentage of the spawning class that would survive five years of fishing pressure to leave the marshes and join the offshore spawning stock. The higher the fishing limits, the greater the harvest - and the lower the percentage that escape. State and federal recovery plans for redfish call for a 30 percent escapement rate. The DWF said under the current regulations - commercial closure and a 5-fish limit for sports - escapement has averaged about 70 percent. However, agencies at both levels have urged against allowing that much fishing pressure.

"These are not recommendations by the Department," said Harry Blanchet, manager of coastal finfish programs. "We are required by law to present scenarios, but we're not making any proposals."

"The only recommendation we do make is that, should fishing be reopened, that the decision-makers not choose the 30 percent escapement scenario. We feel that would be cutting (conservation effort) too thin."

That all leads commercial fishermen to ask the obvious: If reds are doing so well, why can't we fish, too?

Opponents have a long list of answers. Some of the most convincing:

► Other state and federal agencies have cautioned against changing Louisiana's regulations.

Most important of these comes from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, the federally appointed board of fishermen and scientists that advises the Department of Commerce on Gulf fishing. Its Red Drum Stock Assessment Panel, chaired by LSU researcher Richard Condrey, unanimously voted to urge no change in regulations. The panel is concerned that information on the offshore spawning stock is insufficient to determine if that critical component of the resource has sufficiently healed

from overfishing. Further, its available research shows the spawning stock has not achieved its conservation standard.

"My concern is that portions of your document might be misinterpreted to suggest that a reduction in current conservation measures would be appropriate," Condrey wrote the DWF. "While the stocks appear to be recovering, it is the unanimous recommendation of the Red Drum Stock Assessment Panel that we hold a steady course and resist all efforts to reduce current conservation measures until it is clear that the stocks are in an equilibrium state of recovery."

► Commercial fishermen have yet to propose a system of regulation that would ensure public confidence a quota was not being exceeded by illegal operations. Last year, the DWF Enforcement Division said it could not, with available resources, adequately police a commercial fishery on redfish.

► There is no pressing need for these fish in the market place. Consumers in the home and at restaurants have shifted to other species, such as black drum. Why change a system that's working, especially in the face of serious doubts by independent boards?

We'll know the commission's answer Thursday. I don't envy them in this vote.



Reopening redfish to commercial fishing interests is sure to spawn heated debate from sportfishermen.

FILE PHOTO

# Keep commercial ban on redfish, panel urges

By MARK SCHLEIFSTEIN  
and BOB MARSHALL  
Staff writers

Commercial fishermen lost another battle before the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Thursday, when commissioners recommended the Legislature continue the ban on commercial fishing for redfish.

State biologists said redfish have experienced a comeback from the low levels in the 1980s that resulted in the ban, but the commission decided it was not enough to warrant a change in the policy at this time.

If research later this year shows redfish have returned to a level able to sustain some commercial fishing in federal waters off Louisiana, the ban could be lifted in a year or two, officials said.

In approving continuation of the ban, which has been in effect for seven years, the commission rejected a proposal by Commissioner Teejohn Mialjevich, a commercial fisherman, that recommended a limited reopening of commercial fishing combined with a system for tracking the catch from boat to customer.

The commission's decision

came after a heated public hearing that pitted representatives of recreational fishing organizations against representatives of commercial fishing organizations.

Under the ban, recreational fishermen are allowed to catch as many as five large redfish a day. Commercial fishermen contend that the recreational catch totaled 30 million pounds during the past five years, while their boats sat idle.

Recreational fishermen argue that they must be allowed to catch fish to help the state's tourism industry.

"We acknowledge the patient is getting better," said Jeff Angers, executive director of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, which represents recreational fishing. "We're excited about the degree the patient is healthy, but we don't feel now is the time to call in Dr. Kevorkian," a reference to the Detroit physician who helps terminally ill patients commit suicide.

Despite often angry words between recreational and commercial fishermen, both sides indicated that some accommodation for commercial fishermen is possible during the next few years.

"We simply contend that if there's room for a commercial harvest, then don't hold us back," said Oliver Kelly, who represented the Southeast Louisiana Finfish Fishermen. Kelly said that the commercial fishermen were willing to live under a daily fishing quota or other tools aimed at controlling the commercial catch.

"We're not the fire-breathing dragon here," he said. "We feed America and want to be careful in our industry in how to do that."

Commercial fishermen did score a victory later in the day when the panel approved a proposal to limit the sale of new salt-water gill-net licenses to current license holders pending establishment by the Legislature of a limited entry program, a system of management that limits the number of fishermen who can participate in the fishery.

The moratorium is part of a reform package commercial fishing groups proposed last November after Florida banned entanglement nets. The Mississippi Senate on Wednesday approved a ban on gill nets within a mile of that state's shoreline.

# WFC meeting full of surprises

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission had just voted to retain gamefish status for redfish Thursday, and as several hundred disappointed commercial fishermen filed out of the meeting in surprising silence, four impressions were hard to shake:

- ▶ The commission made the right decision for the right reasons.
  - ▶ Fears the commission would be a rubber stamp for commercial fishing interests did not pan out.
  - ▶ Barring stunning new science or foolishness on the part of commercial fishermen, gamefish status has less than a year or two left.
  - ▶ It's too bad all commission meetings can't be run this way.
- The decision to retain gamefish status took some people by surprise, because the state's latest assessment was that the inshore component of the resource had recovered far beyond the "safe" range. Managers have said that to maintain the offshore spawning component, at least 30 percent of each spawning class must live to the age of 4 years — about the time it "escapes" the inshore estuaries and joins the



Bob Marshall

big offshore spawners.

On Thursday, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries reported the escapement rate has been averaging about 70 percent for the last five years, more than twice the conservation standard.

With so many surplus fish leaving the marsh, why not open it to commercial harvest?

▶ Because the last time a study was done on the offshore spawning stock, it still showed gaps in the population. Another study planned for later this year could show the gaps are filled and the resource fully recovered. But until that becomes a fact it wouldn't be prudent to take chances.

▶ Commercial fishing groups have not presented a plan of reg-

ulation and enforcement that would keep cheating to a minimum. Most commercial fishermen at the meeting spoke of their sincere desire to go slowly, and fish conservatively, but after two years of prompting by the commission, no one has presented a plan for safe fishing. To reopen with such a plan would be suicide for the resource and anglers.

Those objections were at the heart of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation's opposition to reopening the commercial fishery, and they were embodied in the carefully worded resolution to keep gamefish status offered by the commission's newest member, Glynn Carver.

That Carver authored the resolution has dispelled, for a while, concerns he would be a "pro-commercial" vote on the panel.

At his first meeting last month, Carver voted with the three commercials to remove chairman Jeff Schneider. Many sportsmen feared it was a signal that commercial fishing interests who have the ear of Gov. Edwards now would have a rubber stamp on the panel.

The 4-3 vote to maintain

gamefish status had the three commercials in the minority, while Carver was joined by Jeff Schneider, Ray Hanchey and Joe Cormier.

But it's just as reasonable to expect the vote could easily be 5-2 to reopen if the two objections listed in Carver's resolution are met. We could have the answer on the offshore stock later this year. If the spawning stock shows it has fully recovered, then it would be up to only the commercial fishermen to finally get their act in gear and devise a plan that will inspire public confidence.

Finally, we can all pat ourselves on the back for last week's meeting. In a state not known for good government, the meeting was an extraordinary show.

Sport and commercial fishermen managed to present their arguments with a minimum of catcalls and personal attacks. Sometimes Commissioner John Mialjevich couldn't resist poking fun at a recreational angler, but otherwise the panel treated the scientists and speakers with dignity, even when they disagreed with what was said.

## Notes

### MORATORIUM APPROVED:

After months of delay, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on Thursday voted for a moratorium on the issuance of new saltwater gill net licenses pending development by the Legislature of a limited entry plan. The moratorium is part of a package of reforms proposed by commercial fishermen in November following the easy passage in Florida of a gill net ban. Other features of the package include the limited-entry program, a call for tighter monitoring of commercial quota counting and increases in commercial license fees to pay for beefed-up enforcement. The package is designed to inspire public confidence in regulation of commercial fishing, as well as protect local commercial fishermen from an influx of netters displaced by net bans in other states. The package was first proposed in December but became a hot issue when it was opposed by the Gulf Coast Conservation Association because the group felt it would take the steam out of its drive for a total net ban. One delaying tactic was to question the commission's authority to impose a moratorium.

### ARE CRAB TRAPS NEXT?

With gill netters on the run, some Mississippians are focusing on a proposal to ban crab trappers and bait shrimp trawlers from Mississippi's coastal bays. Commissioner Veiron Asper of Diamondhead said he proposed the ban because he believes the sensitive bay areas need protection from commercial activities, especially from bait shrimping by the 41 live bait camps.

### MOVING AHEAD:

The drive to ban gill nets in Mississippi took a step toward reality last week when the state Senate approved a bill to ban all nets within a mile of the shoreline along the Mississippi Gulf and its barrier islands. The bill was passed by the Senate, with only two senators opposed, and now goes to the House. Sport fishermen had lobbied the state Commission on Marine Resources for a total ban on the nets, claiming the ban would help boost the saltwater fish population. They believe that gill nets are destroying the populations of several types of fish. Mullet, in particular, are targeted, but so are speckled trout and redfish. The bill would ban the use of the nets within a mile of the shoreline of Harrison, Jackson and Hancock counties, and within 1/2 mile of the shoreline of the barrier islands, such as Cat Island, Horn Island, Ship Island and Petit Bois Island. It also would ban the use of nets in coastal bays and bayous, and all commercial fishing in marine waters north of U.S. 90. It would not apply to oysters.



## SIERRA CLUB

*Acadian Group*  
*P.O. Box 51559*  
*Lafayette, LA. 70505*

April 20, 1995

*Jacques Privat*  
*Chairman*

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Mr. John Schneider, Commissioner  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Law Enforcement Division  
P. O. Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000

Dear Mr. Schneider:

Mr. Durwood Magee, Captain of the Law Enforcement Division, Region 6, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, is retiring in the summer of 1995. Lt. Glenn Angelle, of District 5C is applying for the position that will be vacated. Lt. Angelle has many years of experience as a Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries law enforcement agent. He is very supportive of the fish and wildlife program in South Louisiana.

Glen Angelle and the District 5C agents have been invaluable in the war against poaching. They are dedicated to all aspects of wildlife resources, including migratory birds, which are abundant in our region.

Lt. Angelle's management skills enable him to lead other agents in the proper methods and procedures of their enforcement positions.

His willingness to share his extensive knowledge of the laws and regulations which he enforces, enhances the spirit of cooperation within the law-enforcement community.

His exceptional integrity fosters a model for better understanding and good relations between his agents and the general public.

The combination of these attributes make Lt. Glen Angelle an outstanding choice for the position of Captain, Region 6. Please give Lt. Angelle every consideration for the position of Captain.

Sincerely yours,

Jacques Privat, Chairman  
Sierra Club, Acadian Group